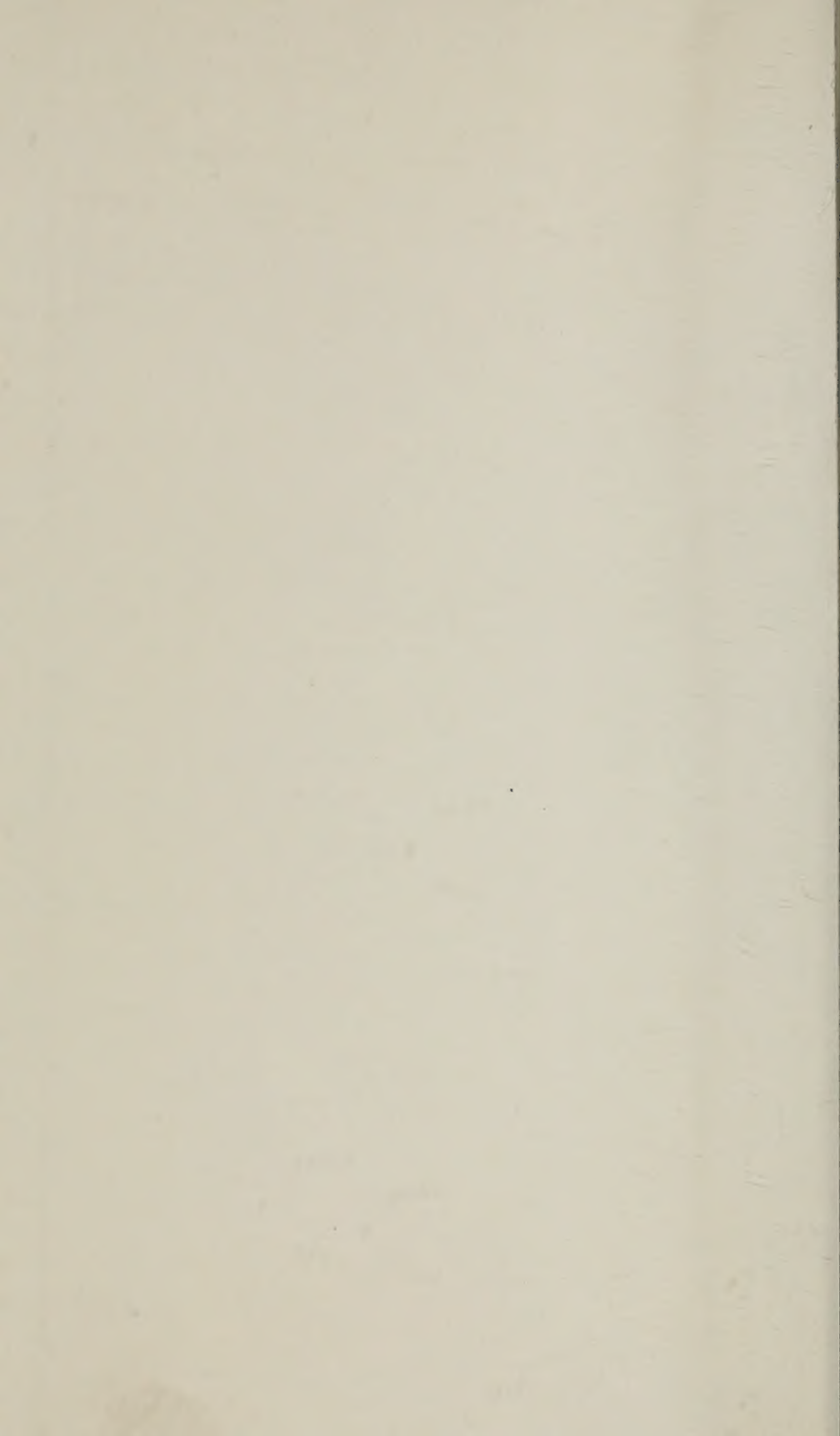




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THE

ANNUAL REGISTER,

OR A VIEW OF THE

H I S T O R Y,

POLITICS,

AND

L I T E R A T U R E,

For the YEAR 1812.

A NEW EDITION.



LONDON:

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PREFACE.

IN the long and disastrous annals of the war which has now become almost habitual to Europe, the present year will be peculiarly memorable on account of the variety and importance of its events—events, however, more striking in their occurrence, than decisive of the important concerns depending upon the issue of the contest. Of these, the most prominent in magnitude and interest was undoubtedly the invasion of one great empire by the collected force of the still greater empire, which in its spread had left itself no other adequate antagonist. The conflagration of a capital, the horrid carnage consequent upon well-fought battles between countless hosts, the still more lavish and lamentable waste of lives occasioned by the rigours of winter combining with the distresses of retreat, and the inglorious flight of a leader who scarcely ever before returned without fame and conquest from his daring expeditions; form scenes of tragic grandeur which the drama of human affairs has rarely presented in modern times on the civilized parts of the globe.

The

The peninsular war has likewise been carried on with unusual vigour; and the storming of two strong fortresses, with an action in the field of greater magnitude than had before occurred between the chief contending parties, followed by the liberation of the southern provinces of Spain from its invaders, offer splendid materials to the military historian of this period. At the same time, the adoption of free governments in Spain and Sicily will equally interest the philosophical observer, provided their duration shall correspond with the zeal displayed in their establishment.

Another event which has added to the confusion and calamity of the times, and perhaps will be the parent of consequences more momentous than any which are yet apparent, is, the unfortunate commencement of a war between Great Britain and those Transatlantic States to which she gave birth, and has communicated the most valuable of her treasures, her laws and liberty. To this country, indeed, the war has been little more than an addition to its drains and losses; but to the United States its continuance must prove a severe trial of the strength of that federal union which has hitherto contributed so essentially to their prosperity and security, and will probably give origin to those evils which press so heavily upon all old governments.

In domestic history the present year will be distinguished as that which by reuniting all the powers of the crown in the person of the Prince Regent, has made an actual commencement of a new reign, and afforded a sufficient criterion of the spirit in which it is likely to be conducted. It has also put to the test the strength of the different political parties; and by weighing them all in the balance, has demonstratively proved the existence of a preponderating mass of power which reduces them to comparative insignificance. After all the complaints of the want of "a strong and effective administration," that ministry has been continued which gave rise to these complaints; and no want of strength or efficacy has appeared in carrying through the measures determined upon by the government. Difficulties, it is true, have occurred respecting certain political points, but they have been such as it required rather wisdom than power to adjust. The intestine disorders which have pervaded a considerable tract of the manufacturing districts, and which assumed a character of daring and ferocity unprecedented among the lower classes in this country, have been happily quelled by a firm but lenient exertion of authority; and the record of them may serve to exemplify the dangers attending a population forced by prosperous trade greatly beyond its natural level, whenever the

sources

source of employment are cut off, or maintenance is rendered unusually difficult by the exorbitant price of the necessaries of life. This last cause has prevailed during this year to a degree almost beyond all former example, but, it is to be feared, not beyond what may in future be expected as long as public burdens and expenses are proceeding in an unlimited increase.

With respect to the conduct of our publication, we have little to remark in addition to the statements given in our last preface. It has not been found necessary to make any further alterations in the plan; and we are happy in being able to verify, and even to surpass, the expectations held forth of a future early appearance of our annual volume.

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THE
ANNUAL REGISTER,

For the YEAR 1812.

GENERAL HISTORY.

CHAPTER I.

The Prince Regent's Speech.—Addresses thereon and Debates.—Thanks to Lord Minto.—State of the King's Health.—Debate on Colonel M'Mahon's Appointment of Paymaster of Widows Pensions.—Distillery Bill.

THE session of parliament was opened on January 7th, with the Prince Regent's speech, delivered by commission; it was to the following effect:—Commencing with the expression of deep concern for his majesty's continued indisposition, respecting which the reports of the queen's council were to be laid before the two Houses, it particularly adverted to their indispensable duty of continuing to preserve for his majesty the facility of resuming his royal authority in the event of his recovery. The success of the measures for the defence and security of Portugal were next touched upon, with the reputation acquired by the British and Portuguese troops in their ac-

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tions with the enemy. The surprise of a French corps in Estremadura, by lieut.-gen. Hill, was mentioned with commendation; from which a transition was made to the general merits of lord Wellington in the direction of the campaign; and the spirit shown by the Spanish nation in their peculiar system of warfare, the extension of which was placed in balance against the success of the enemy in some quarters. This part of the subject concluded with the Regent's confident hope that parliament would enable his majesty to continue the most effectual aid for supporting the contest in the Peninsula. The speech then took notice of the success of the British

arms in the reduction of Java, and the capture of the isles of Bourbon and Mauritius; and of the gallant conduct of the army under sir Samuel Achmuty, and the navy by which it was seconded. His Royal Highness proceeded to recommend to parliament the consideration of proper measures for the future government of the British possessions in India; and expressed his regret, that important differences between this country and the United States of America, remained unadjusted, at the same time assuring the Houses, that all means of conciliation would be employed consistent with the honour and dignity of the crown, and the maritime and commercial rights and interests of the British empire. The usual address was then made to the House of Commons, trusting in their zeal to provide the necessary supplies, and also recommending their resumption of the consideration of the Irish finances, which were, however, declared to be improved. The whole concluded with a sentiment of the arduous duties which his Royal Highness had been called upon to fulfil, and his reliance on the experienced wisdom and public spirit of both Houses in assisting him to discharge the functions of his high trust.

In the House of Lords, the accustomed echoing address was moved by the earl of Shaftesbury, and seconded by lord Brownlow. Lord Grenville then rose, and after observing, that he should have been happy if the address proposed had been so worded as to procure unanimity, he remarked, that no outline of intended measures, no view of intended proceedings, had

been submitted to their lordships; and yet they were called upon to pledge themselves to a system which had brought the country into its present alarming situation. He said, he retained his objections to every part of the system he had so often condemned; and he particularly requested their lordships to consider the portentous way in which the state of Ireland had been alluded to in the speech; the attention of parliament was not directed to the oppressions and grievances of which the Irish complained, but solely to the revenue to be drawn from them. He concluded by giving notice, that this subject would in a short time be brought distinctly before their lordships.

The earl of Liverpool, in reply, contended, that the system thus condemned had justified itself by experience; and professed his own readiness, and that of his colleagues, to defend their conduct when the day should come for canvassing the subject. He thought there was nothing in the address which could prevent any member from concurring in the assurance given to the regent of assistance in the discharge of his arduous duties.

Earl Grey went over the same ground with lord Grenville, and denied that opposing measures of administration fraught with ruin to the country would be withholding the support to the Regent necessary for the conduct of his government.

Some other lords spoke on the occasion; but the address was agreed to *nemine dissidente*.

The proceedings respecting the speech in the House of Commons were

were rendered remarkable by an unusual circumstance. After it had been read by the Speaker, and lord Jocelyn was rising to move the accustomed complimentary address, sir Francis Burdett rose at the same time, and having first caught the Speaker's eye, it was decided that he was in possession of the House. The baronet then, after a speech of warm and desultory invective against the principles of the war, the defects of the representation, and a variety of other matters of grievance, moved an address to the Prince Regent, intended, he said, "to embrace every point which his own sense of duty to his constituents, and to the country in general, suggested to him as essential." Accordingly, the proposed address was framed in the style of a memorial or remonstrance, laying before his Royal Highness all the instances of misgovernment and oppression, of infringement of the public liberty, and accumulation of abuses, which, in the opinion of the mover, a series of past years had afforded. After it had been read, lord Cochrane rose to second the motion, and in his speech particularly dwelt upon the misconduct of the war, and the little hope of final success. Lord Jocelyn then moved the address, which he had prepared, by way of amendment to that proposed by the honourable baronet, and was seconded by Mr. Vyse. Of the debate which followed, it is scarcely necessary to record the particulars, since the members in opposition, who agreed with sir Francis Burdett in parts of his statement of public evils could not concur with him in all points, and thought that many of the to-

pics introduced would be better reserved for future discussion. They made some objections to the ministerial address, similar to those which were advanced in the House of Lords, and were replied to in a similar manner. The House then divided on sir F. Burdett's address, which had only one vote in its favour besides the two tellers, against 238. Lord Jocelyn's amendment was carried without a division.

On Jan. 8, lord Jocelyn appearing at the bar of the House with the report of the committee on the address, the question was put, that it should be brought up; when Mr. Whitbread rose to deliver those sentiments on the subject which the unexpected occurrence of yesterday had prevented him from declaring. He then at length stated his reasons for disagreeing with the address. These chiefly turned upon the fallacy of the hopes attempted to be excited by the present state of the Peninsula, concerning which he wished for more ample information in several points (which he mentioned) than had been afforded; upon the expression "conciliatory," applied to the negotiations with America, which appeared to him by no means entitled to that appellation: and upon a supposed impossibility of negotiating a peace with France, arising from the personal character of its present ruler. He was answered by the chancellor of the exchequer, who began in a strain of sarcasm respecting the past prophecies of the honourable gentleman, which had been proved erroneous in the event; and he went on to show the reasons there were for looking forward cheerfully and sanguinely to the result of the con-

test on the Peninsula. He adverted to several of the questions that, had been asked by Mr. Whitbread, to some of which he gave general replies; and he affirmed that our army in Spain was at this moment 10,000 stronger than it had been the last year. He defended the conduct of government with respect to America, and represented the contingent evil of war as greater to her than to this country; and having noticed some other of the honourable gentleman's objections to the address, he concluded with hoping that the House would not be prevented, by the gloomy picture he had drawn, from concurring in it.

After Mr. Whitbread had called upon the last speaker for an explanation of his meaning in quoting upon him a satirical couplet from Pope, and had received a disavowal of any intention of giving offence; general Tarleton rose, and made a number of observations concerning the unfavourable state of affairs in the Peninsula, and the hopeless nature of the contest in which we have been so long engaged. He was followed by Mr. Creevey, whose remarks chiefly related to the public revenue, which, according to his information, had experienced a rapid and alarming decline; and for the purpose that the returns of taxes for the last year might be laid upon the table before the address was voted, he concluded with moving that the word "now" be left out of the motion before the House, and "this day se'nnight" be inserted in its place. This called up again the chancellor of the exchequer, who said, he had the satisfaction to state, that the honourable gentleman had

taken a black and very unfounded view of the revenue of the country. He acknowledged a diminution in the year 1811 of two millions from that of the preceding year; but the receipt in the latter was the greatest ever known; and that important branch, the excise, had produced more in 1811 than in the preceding year.

After some further debate, in which the former topics were recapitulated, Mr. Creevey's motion was put and negatived; and the report was then brought up and agreed to.

The thanks of the Houses of Parliament voted on occasion of military success, are generally such mere matters of course, in which ministers take the opportunity of gaining reflected approbation of their own measures, and their opponents seldom choose to expose themselves to the hazard of appearing reluctant to join in the praise due to meritorious services, that it is scarcely worth while to record them in the register of parliamentary transactions. Sometimes, however, the motions for this purpose call forth discussions which it is not unimportant to notice; and one of this kind occurred in the House of Commons on Jan. 10, upon the motion of the chancellor of the exchequer for thanks to lord Minto, governor-general of India, on account of the conquest of the islands of Bourbon and Mauritius, and the operations in the island of Java.

The right honourable gentleman introduced his motion with an eulogy of the wise and well-arranged plans of the governor-general, which had given birth to these successes. He went through the

the detail of the preparations made for the several expeditions, and the mode of execution; and after distributing his praise among the persons principally concerned, he moved, "That the Thanks of this House be given to the right hon. Gilbert lord Minto, for the wisdom and ability with which the military resources of the British empire in India have been applied in the reduction of the power of the enemy in the eastern seas; by the conquest of the islands of Bourbon and Mauritius, and by the recent successful operations in the island of Java; and that this House doth attribute the brilliant and important successes which have crowned our arms in that quarter of the globe, to the vigorous system of well-concerted measures so wisely adopted and steadily pursued by Gilbert lord Minto."

Mr. Sheridan then rose, and said, that though he could not hesitate a moment respecting the propriety of thanks as a reward for the discipline and gallantry displayed by the British army; yet he was not prepared to acknowledge the same claim on behalf of lord Minto. In the first place, he thought an absolute necessity ought to be made out for the governor-general to forsake his station at Bengal, and enter upon a voyage for six weeks or two months to be present at the conquest of Batavia. He then observed, that much merit had been attributed to lord Minto for having had every thing in readiness for the expedition against the Mauritius at the time he received the dispatches, authorising him to undertake it; and yet upon the first check that occurred, the whole object of the armament must have been disap-

pointed, had it not been for the admirable conduct of captain Rowley. The next merit attributed to him was, that the time of the year rendering the success of the expedition against Batavia extremely doubtful, and admiral Drury having despaired of it on account of the lateness of the season, the governor-general had made himself at Bengal so much more master of the subject than that experienced naval officer, that it was determined to proceed; his praise, therefore, on this occasion, would be so much detracted from the merits of admiral Drury. He said, that he could not concur in the opinion delivered by the chancellor of the exchequer, that the importance of the acquisition was not to be contemplated in a question of this nature; and he thought that when a vote of thanks was required from the House to the planner of the expedition, there could not be a fitter time to inquire whether the acquisition was worth the lives it had cost; whether we can quit it without leaving the natives to certain destruction; or whether certain destruction will not attend our troops if they remain? Adverting again to lord Minto's accompanying the armament, he said, he had a rooted dislike to any civil control being exercised over the army or navy; it savoured too much of the French revolution, where a deputy from the convention always accompanied the troops, not to share the danger, but to participate in the glory.

Mr. Yorke defended the claim of lord Minto to the thanks of the House. With respect to the imputation on him for leaving his government, he asked, what was to prevent him? Were there any commotion

commotions in Bengal to require his presence at that particular period? It was most important, not only to the success of the expedition, but to the settlement of the island, that he should be at Java. A great number of points were to be settled there which no person but the governor-general was competent to decide. With respect to his having procured the sailing of the expedition at a season which admiral Drury and sir S. Auchmuty also had at first thought unsuitable, it was a circumstance greatly to lord Minto's credit; for it was in consequence of having employed captain Gregg to try the soundings of the new course by the Caramalla, to the west of Borneo, by which he had convinced those officers that the armament could reach its destination before the S. W. winds set in.

Sir Henry Montgomery could not think that any thing the noble lord had done merited the honour proposed. He perhaps deserved censure for some of his acts at Java, especially that of giving freedom to all the slaves as soon as he arrived, which was letting loose a number of notoriously blood-thirsty men.

General Tarleton ridiculed the idea of such a man as sir S. Auchmuty being sent on an expedition with a nurse to superintend him, and to whose decision or temerity in attacking fort Cornelis he attributed the salvation of the whole force.

After several other members had spoken on both sides of the question, it was put and carried. Thanks were afterwards agreed to *nem. con.* to all the other officers, and to the soldiers and seamen, concerned in the expeditions above mentioned.

No debate took place in the House of Lords on the same motions.

The near approach of the period in which the Regency act was to expire, rendered necessary a particular and formal inquiry into the state of his majesty's bodily and mental health, and committees were appointed by both Houses for the examination of the king's physicians on these points. The reports of each were laid before their respective Houses on Jan. 13 and 15, and have been printed: it will be sufficient here to state the general result. The medical gentlemen examined were, Doctors Herberden, Baillie, sir W. Halford, Monro, Simmons, John and Darling Willis. They all agreed respecting his majesty's present incapacity of attending public business, and also that his bodily health was either good or little impaired. They agreed likewise in representing his state of mind as greatly disordered. With respect to the chance of recovery; they concurred in thinking such an event improbable: but as to the degree of improbability, there was some difference, at least in their language, some representing it as bordering upon hopelessness, others as only a preponderance of improbability. On the whole, however, it was evident that the sum of opinion was such as to exclude any reasonable expectation of a recovery, and that little more was meant by the cautious terms employed, than to avoid a positive declaration that it was absolutely despaired of. The public at large had anticipated the physicians in a similar judgment.

A debate on a matter of little intrinsic importance, but one which gave an insight into the policy

licy pursued by ministers in their connection with the Regent, occurred on the motion for a supply to his majesty, made in the House of Commons on January 9. Mr. Creevey rose, and after observing that it was the duty of that House to examine several subjects connected with the revenue before they entered into the consideration of the supply, adverted to an office lately bestowed on the regent's confidential servant, colonel M'Mahon. Twenty-nine years ago it had been stated, in the 10th report of the commissioners for public accounts that the office of paymaster of widows' pensions was a perfect sinecure, and ought to be abolished, and in one of the reports of the commissioners of military inquiry presented to the House, four years ago, the same opinion had been confirmed, and it was added, that on the decease of the present patentee, general Fox, they presumed that the office would be suppressed; yet in the face of these two reports, the ministers of the crown had advised his royal highness the Regent to confer the office on colonel M'Mahon. He concluded with moving an amendment, that the House would to-morrow se'nnight resolve itself into a committee of supply, in order to give an opportunity in the interim for the consideration he had suggested.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer began a reply with some observations on the prefatory matter in Mr. Creevey's speech, in which he had alluded to the conferring of some other places on members of parliament on account of their political conduct; and after defending the ministers in that re-

spect, he came to the case of colonel M'Mahon. He corrected the honourable gentleman's supposition, that the place in question was held by patent for life; and asserted, that it had been distinctly communicated to the colonel, by his Royal Highness's command, that considering the circumstances under which the office stood, he was to hold it as subject to any view that the parliament might take of it.

Mr. Brougham considered the appointment as an insult to parliament, and said, that the communication to the colonel, mentioned by the chancellor of the exchequer, only proved that the ministers were conscious that they were flying in the teeth of those principles which had been recognized by the House and its commissioners. This observation was argued against by Mr. Croker, who defended ministers in respect of that and other appointments which had been objected to.

Mr. Whitbread thought that the last honourable gentleman had failed to remove the objectionable qualities of the case in question. The principle feature of blame in the transaction was, in his opinion, that of appointing the colonel during the recess of parliament, to a situation which every one must know to be a sinecure, and therefore an incumbrance on the public purse, and fit only to be abolished. After some other speakers had given their remarks on the subject, the House divided, for Mr. Creevey's amendment 11; against it 54. It should be observed, that the honourable character and merits of colonel M'Mahon were allowed on both sides. It may also

be added, that the general sentiment out of doors on this appointment by no means coincided with that which seemed to be adopted by the majority in the House.

The same subject was afterwards taken up by Mr. Banks, in a debate on the army estimates, and a motion being made, the House divided upon it, when the ministers were supported by a majority of 54 to 38. Mr. Banks, however, renewed the attack in a different motion on another day, and in a fuller House, when the arguments against the appointment, with its extreme unpopularity in the nation, outweighed the efforts of government, and a resolution passed for the abolition of colonel McMahon's sinecure by 115 votes against 112.

On January 14, the House having resolved itself into a committee to take into consideration the acts relating to the distilleries, the chancellor of the exchequer proposed a string of resolutions, recommending the prohibition of all distillation from grain in Great Britain for a time to be limited. The comparative failure of the crops for the last year had rendered this expedient necessary; but in order that the revenue might not suffer materially from the expiration of the duties arising from spirits distilled from grain, it had been thought advisable that they should be transferred to spirits distilled from sugar. The resolutions moved for were, in substance, that after the 1st of February, 1812, until the 31st of December, 1812, no wort or wash for distillation shall be made in any part of Great Britain from any kind of grain—that it shall be lawful for his ma-

jesty by proclamation, at any time after October 1, 1812, either to terminate such prohibition from a time not less than 30 days from the date of the said proclamation, or to continue it from December 31 until 30 days after the next meeting of parliament—that, during the period of this prohibition, the duties on wort or wash made in Great Britain for extracting spirits, and the duties on spirits made in Great Britain, and on spirits made in Ireland and imported into Great Britain, and the duties on stills in Scotland, and on spirits made in England and imported into Scotland, and *vice versa*, and the drawbacks on exportation, shall be suspended,—that during such suspension there shall be charged duties on wort or wash, and on spirits, the particulars of which are the subject of several following resolutions; and that during such suspension there shall be charged upon all spirits imported into Great Britain (except rum the produce of the British plantations) an additional duty of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent upon the former duties.

Mr. Ponsonby then rose, not to object to the resolutions; but to complain of the change that had been wrought in the constitution, by silently accustoming the people to look for relief from their grievances in matters of interest not to parliament, but to the executive government. After a word of reply from the chancellor of the exchequer, the resolutions were agreed to.

The report of a bill formed upon these resolutions was brought up on January 22, when, on the question that it be agreed to, sir John Newport rose, and entreated the House,

House to weigh well the nature of a measure which went to prohibit the intercourse between the two islands forming the united kingdom; and he referred to the 6th article of the Union, by which it was declared that no bounty or prohibition should exist between the two kingdoms. He lamented that the general interests of Ireland were so neglected in that House; and observed, that at the time of the Union it was alleged that the benefits resulting to Ireland from an exportation of the products of its distilleries to Great Britain would be one of the chief advantages resulting from that measure; but, after various suspensions, it was now proposed to prohibit such exportations, so long as the prohibition of distillation from grain was continued here.

Mr. Sinclair then submitted to the House some observations on the subject, so far as the measure affected Scotland, and contended that the prohibition of distilling from grain would be very injurious to the agriculture and landed interest of that country.

Sir Geo. Clerke proposed to introduce a clause into the bill for preventing the English distillers from defrauding the revenue, on the ground that they drew more spirits from a quantity of sugar-wash than the calculation by which they were charged.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that the matter alluded to by the honourable baronet had been a subject of long and deliberate reflection, and he thought it unwise to embarrass a temporary system without full consideration. He assured Mr. Sinclair, that he had received more applications from

Scotland for the adoption of the prohibitory measure, than from any other part of the united kingdom. He replied to sir J. Newport, by observing that the Suspension bill had been enacted for the purpose of relieving Ireland; and that while the English market was restrained from the supply of spirits distilled at home from grain, it would not be right to suffer it to be affected by an importation of such spirits from a country where the prohibition was not in force.

Mr. Hutchinson spoke with warmth on the injustice done to Ireland by the various attempts to deprive her of the advantages expected from the Union.

The amendments made in the committee were then agreed to, and the clause proposed by sir G. Clerke was negatived.

On the motion for the third reading of the bill, Mr. Hutchinson rose to enter his solemn protest against that clause which had for its object the suspension of the intercourse between England and Ireland, which he charged with being in direct violation of the solemn compact entered into between the two countries, and he called upon the chancellor of the exchequer to assign his reasons for venturing upon such a breach. He was replied to by Mr. W. Fitzgerald, who affirmed that those interested in the manufactures, agriculture, and revenues of Ireland, considered this bill as a most important benefit; and he asked if the honourable gentleman would wish that the provisions of the whole bill should be extended to Ireland?

Lord Folkestone affirmed that the last speaker had advanced nothing

thing to show that the clause was not a direct breach of the act of Union; and intimated, that although the Irish might not be injured by the present measure, such an encroachment might make a precedent for future injuries.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made some animated remarks on the objections raised by Mr. H. and lord F., and contended that every thing had been done with the best intentions with respect to Ireland. The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

When it was introduced into the House of Lords, on February 3, it called forth some observations from lord Lauderdale, who said he did not mean to oppose it, but blamed ministers for not having taken the earliest opportunity, after ascertaining the deficiency of the late harvest, of counteracting the evil, either by assembling parlia-

ment, or stopping the distillery of grain on their own responsibility. Earl Bathurst, in reply, defended the conduct of ministers, and said that stopping the distilleries by the executive government was a measure that could be justified only by the most urgent necessity. Lord Grenville concurred in this opinion, and stated some reasons why he should not oppose the present measure; though liable to objections. The bill went through the committee, and afterwards passed into a law.

It is proper to observe, that the scarcity of grain in Ireland, of which alarming reports were given, caused at length a similar prohibition from distillation to be extended to that country in this session of parliament, after several discussions in both Houses, which it does not seem important to particularize.

CHAPTER II.

Bills relative to the King's Household, and Debates thereon.

ON January 16, the House of Commons having resolved itself into a committee to consider of that part of the regent's speech which relates to his majesty's household, the chancellor of the exchequer rose to submit to the committee the measures which it might be proper to adopt under the existing circumstances. He began with stating the difference which prevailed with respect to the expectations of his majesty's recovery, between the present period and the last session of parliament; and having adverted to the opinions of the physicians lately laid before them as to the improbability of a recovery, he took as his standard that of the most sanguine among them, Dr. Simmons, who had stated the proportion of recoveries in persons beyond the age of 70, as one in five. He then proceeded to lay before the committee what he conceived to be the principal objects they had to keep in view. The exercise of the royal authority in the person of the king being suspended, it was first necessary to consider how it was to be supplied; and in the second place they were to take into consideration the nature of the provision requisite for the maintenance and comfort of the king during his illness. The first object was already provided for by that clause which gave to the regent the full powers of royalty

at the expiration of six weeks from the commencement of the present session; but with the sovereign authority, the civil list would also devolve upon him, unless parliament were to make some arrangement for his majesty's household. In discussing this topic, two considerations naturally suggested themselves—from what sources were the provision and attendants to be drawn? and what was the nature and extent of the provision to be made? With respect to the first, he had no hesitation to say that his majesty's present civil list, and his present officers and servants, were the source to be looked to. In considering the second point, it was the duty of the committee to contemplate, not only the probability and improbability of a recovery, but a kind of middle state, which, though it would not render his majesty capable of resuming the reins of government, might afford him the means of tasting more comfort and enjoyment than he could partake in at present. In such an event, it must be supposed that on awaking to a sense of his situation, his feelings would be less hurt to find not merely the same individuals about him who had formerly attended him, but the same officers to whom he had been accustomed. In this view of the subject, no one could think that the double establishment requisite for

for a regent and a king could be conducted at the same expense as that for a king alone. The necessary additional expense he thought would not be regarded as extravagant if calculated at the sum of 10,000*l.* per ann.; and this he proposed to meet by an addition of that amount to the civil list.

In looking to the present household for a supply to his majesty's future servants, he should propose to take out of it those high officers, the lord steward, and the lord chamberlain, and in the room of the first to substitute the first gentleman of the bed-chamber, usually called the groom of the stole; and of the second, the vice-chamberlain. Of the lords and grooms of the bed-chamber, he would propose retaining four of each class, to be selected from the present household; and in addition to these, a master of the robes, and seven or eight equerries. The present private secretary to the king might act in the same capacity to the queen; and he trusted that it would be thought right that the whole establishment above stated should be under the control and appointment of her majesty. With regard to the mode of providing for its expenses, he thought it would be best to take out of the civil list annually a sum equal to the estimated charges of the household, and if those should exceed the estimate, to defray the deficiency out of the treasury, which should state the sum to parliament, to be voted out of the supplies of the year; if, on the contrary, a surplus should remain, that it should be paid into the treasury. His estimate of the sum required was 100,000*l.*

He next called to the attention

of the committee the situation of the queen. As it could not be expected that she would continue stationary, as she had done, a greater expense would be incurred by any removal for health or amusement; and to meet this and other expenses attached to the new arrangement of the household, he should propose an addition out of the civil list of 10,000*l.* to her majesty's income. The pensions and allowances which his majesty was accustomed to bestow on the objects of his bounty were next to be considered. These had always been paid out of the privy purse, and as it would certainly be thought right to continue them, he supposed there would be no necessity for changing the fund; submitting however the accounts to a scrutiny in a committee of expenditure. The expenses for medical attendance on his majesty might be defrayed out of the same fund; but there was an excess in the revenue of the duchy of Lancaster of about 30 or 40,000*l.*, which might be applied to demands of that kind. With respect to his majesty's private property, three commissioners should be appointed for the care of it, one to be a master in chancery, and the other two nominated by the queen and the regent.

He was now come to the consideration of the state in which the Prince Regent would be placed, having the civil list returned to him less by 100,000*l.* per annum than had been allowed to his majesty. The prince now possessed an exchequer revenue of 120,000*l.* upon which there were certain claims which it might be unjust to disturb. He would, therefore, propose that of his exchequer income

50,000*l.*

50,000*l.* should be transferred to the civil list; instead of being paid to him, which would leave 70,000*l.* untouched. By taking 100,000*l.* from the civil list, and adding to it from the exchequer 50,000*l.* a defalcation of 50,000*l.* would be left, which might be dispensed with on account of the Prince's smaller family.

He must, however, observe, that it would be unjust to transfer the civil list to the regent upon the supposition that it was adequate to pay the expenses of his majesty, when the contrary was notoriously the fact. In order to explain this, he had moved for the estimated charges on the civil list revenue as they were laid before the House in 1804, together with the actual charges for each subsequent year, and the latter amounted upon the average of six years to 123 or 124,000*l.* annually. This excess had been paid from the funds arising from the excess of the Scotch civil list, and from the droits of admiralty. As long as there were these funds to meet this excess, it would be improper to apply to the public to pay it; and he would propose that, whilst they remained sufficient, it should be defrayed by no other; but if it should increase so as to exceed the present average by 10,000*l.* per annum, the matter should be brought before parliament.

It would also be proper to attend to another point, which was, the expenses incurred by his Royal Highness on assuming the reins of government. When it was hoped that his exercise of the royal authority would continue but for a short period, he had declined receiving any assistance whatever, but it

would now be reasonable for the House to make a provision for these expenses, for which purpose he should propose a grant of 100,000*l.* which sum, however, was to be voted only for one year, because, though it might be necessary for the assumption of the royal functions, it might be so for their permanent exercise. He concluded with moving, 1. That for making provision for the due arrangement of his majesty's household, and for the exercise of the royal authority during the continuance of his majesty's indisposition, and for the purpose of enabling the queen to meet the increased expense to which, in consequence of such indisposition, her majesty may be exposed, there be granted to his majesty, out of the consolidated fund of Great Britain, for that period, the additional yearly sum of 70,000*l.* 2. That it is expedient that provision be made for defraying the expenses incident to the assumption of the personal exercise of the royal authority by his royal highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty.

Mr. Ponsonby then rose, and began with some remarks upon the complexity of the plan laid before them by the chancellor of the exchequer, which he thought might have been simplified, by giving to him who exercises the royal functions all that has been heretofore considered as necessary for the splendor and dignity of the crown, and leaving to the heir apparent to decide on what is proper for the dignity and comfort of his majesty. He next adverted to Mr. P.'s idea of a sort of middle non-descript state between sanity and

and insanity to which the royal sufferer might arrive, which he contended was utterly unfounded upon any thing that had appeared on the examination of the physicians. He touched upon the proposed augmentation of the queen's income, for which he could not discover a single reason; and also upon the 100,000*l.* to be granted to the regent for covering the cost incurred by his assumption of the government, respecting which he thought that nothing more could be expected from parliament than a willingness to grant whatever might appear proper under the specified heads of expenditure. He concluded by wishing that the resolutions might lie on the table for a few days, that gentlemen might have an opportunity of considering the subject.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer in reply said, that a fuller consideration of the plan, which he was aware was a complicated one, would come on at a future period when the bill should be brought in; and he then made some appeals to the feelings of the committee respecting a liberal provision for his majesty's comforts. Mr. Ponsonby spoke again, and before he sat down begged to be allowed to ask one question, which was, whether in granting to his royal highness the sum of 100,000*l.* it was done under the notion that his claims for the arrears of the duchy of Cornwall were totally given up and extinguished? To this the chancellor of the exchequer answered, that it appeared to him that the understanding of the House in the debates on this topic was, that his royal highness had totally relinquished every claim of that description.

Of the further conversation that passed on this interesting subject on the present occasion it is not necessary to give a summary, since the particulars will all come under notice in following the progress of the bill through the House. It may, however, be of some consequence to observe, that the assertion of the chancellor of the exchequer respecting the duchy of Cornwall called up Mr. Sheridan, who, after reading the prince's message from the Journals of the House, contended, that it amounted to a mere abandonment, not a withdrawal of his claims, which remained in full force.

The resolutions were put and agreed to, and the report was ordered to be brought up the next day.

On January 18th, on the question being put that the report of the resolutions be brought up, Mr. Creevey rose, and said, he must enter his protest against covering the deficiencies of the civil list from the droits of admiralty, which, he contended, were strictly the property of the nation, and ought to be brought into the supply. He also said the same thing respecting the Leeward Island duties, which former sovereigns had given up, but which, he asserted, were now parcelled out among ministers and their adherents, as he pledged himself on a future day to prove. Mr. Brand entirely coincided in opinion with the last speaker as to the droits of admiralty. He then made some objections to the arrangements of the household as stated by the chancellor of the exchequer, and thought the sum proposed for the maintenance of the king and queen was immoderate. The
chancellor

chancellor of the exchequer, in reply, endeavoured to set the honourable gentleman right in some errors under which he seemed to labour with regard to the statement; and with respect to the charge made on ministers by the former speaker, he declared his readiness to give every information in his power as to the grants made from the funds alluded to, and declared that not one farthing of them had been received by himself. After some more conversation, the resolutions were agreed to, and a bill was ordered to be brought in thereupon.

On January 20th, the Chancellor of the Exchequer presented the bill for making provision for the better support and arrangement of his majesty's household, and for the care of his majesty's real and personal property, during the continuance of his indisposition. It was read the first time, and a motion was made for a second reading, when Mr. Tierney rose. He observed, that from the papers produced it was impossible to understand whether the sums they should grant might exceed or fall short of what the occasion demanded. It appeared from them that the expenditure of the civil list exceeded its revenue by 124,000*l.* per annum. Whether this additional expense were necessary, it was impossible to say without the production of more documents; and this was certainly the first time that an addition had been demanded to the civil list without the appointment of a committee to inquire into the subject. After some further observations, he proceeded to move for papers under the following heads:—1. An ac-

count of charges upon the civil list revenues as far as relates to bills in the department of the lord steward, from July 1804 to July 1811—2. An account of the same charges as far as relates to foreign ministers, for the same period—3. An account of the same as far as relates to bills in the department of the lord chamberlain, for the same period.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer had no objection to the production of these papers, which were therefore ordered, and the second reading of the bill was fixed for the 23rd.

On the same day, the House having resolved itself into a committee of supply, the chancellor of the exchequer moved, that a sum not exceeding 100,000*l.* be granted for making provision for defraying the expenses incurred in consequence of the assumption of the exercise of the royal authority by the prince regent.

Mr. Tierney said, that the prince regent had now executed his functions for twelve months, and when all the expenses attending the assumption of that office were over, the minister came forward with his outfit for the regency. The prince had refused a sum of money the last year, how then could an outfit be asked for this year, especially as no distinct appropriation of it was mentioned? No such was ever voted by parliament on the assumption of the monarchy, and he was anxious to guard against the recognition of such a principle.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied, that he had intended the words to apply both retrospectively and prospectively, and had no objection to introduce them into
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his motion. As to the apprehension of its being made a precedent, there was no ground for it, since on the event of the demise of the crown, the regent would succeed also to the property of the crown.

Mr. Tierney thought that at least his royal highness should have been advised to send a message to the House on the subject; and that parliament was not justified in asking him to accept of such a sum unless they officially knew that he required it. The same idea was taken up by Mr. Whitbread, who could not but think it extraordinary, that after the credit his royal highness had gained from the country by declaring his intention of laying no additional burdens on the public for his expenses on assuming the regency, a demand should now be made by the minister as well on account of those already incurred, as of those that would now become necessary.

After Mr. Secretary Ryder and Mr. Adam had endeavoured to do away these remarks, and Mr. Whitbread and Mr. Tierney had renewed their objections, the chancellor of the exchequer closed the debate by an appeal to the feelings of the house with respect to the delicacy proper to be observed towards the prince, and the regard due to his dignity. The resolution, with an amendment proposed by him, of introducing after "expenses" the words "which have been or may be," was then carried without a division.

On January 27th, the order of the day being read for the House to resolve itself into a committee on the King's Household bill; on the motion, that the Speaker do leave the chair, Mr. Tierney rose, and

after alluding to the delicacy as well as the importance of the subject before them, he proceeded to observe, that the papers on the table, however correct they might be, by no means afforded the information desired; for while they gave a comparative statement of the expenditure on the civil list for a few years, they afforded no insight into the state of the vouchers, why they had augmented in amount, and how the money had been called for. On this ground he wished to have a distant day for going into the discussion of the bill. In mentioning his objections, he began with the part relative to his majesty's property. They were called upon to appoint three commissioners to superintend this fund, at a salary of 1,000*l.* a year each, whence an idea might be formed of the magnitude of a sum that could afford so large a proportion for the mere auditing. He must protest against parliament's recognizing this fund, uninformed as they were of its amount and nature. He must likewise protest against the oath of secrecy to be taken by these commissioners, which would exclude parliament from the knowledge of any abuse belonging to the fund. In considering the act as it referred to the regency, he must make two assumptions: in the first place, that it would place his royal highness on the throne permanently, in case his majesty did not recover; secondly, that his royal highness ceased to be prince of Wales on that assumption, and of course, whatever was vested in him as such was at an end also; that is to say, the executive government would be entirely in him. But the principles assumed would be violated

violated by this bill; for last year the country only recognized one court; but parliament was now called upon to establish two courts. The honourable member then went over the pecuniary provisions of the bill, and said that it went to form funds over which parliament would have no control, and that the privy purse, instead of belonging to the office of king, would come to belong to the man, which was a complete perversion of its intention. He next made various observations respecting the Prince's debts, which he thought it would be better to pay off at once, than to place in his hands a sum "to meet certain engagements of honour" to an unknown extent, and with the possibility of being unable, through fresh embarrassments, to discharge them. The charges of the civil list were stated to have exceeded the funds by a large annual average, which had hitherto been made good from other sources, and if these became insufficient, then it would be necessary to come to parliament. What was this but an indirect statement that an addition was to be made to the civil list to the amount of this average exceedant, while in the outset the Prince was to be curtailed of 50,000*l.* enjoyed by his father? The fact was, that this was a plan to keep the Prince Regent always in restraint, always under the necessity of applying for something to ministers, for which, no doubt, he was to give something to ministers in return. Mr. T. dwelt for some time on the idea of distrust of the Prince Regent shown in the bill, and then adverted to the great increase of influence which it gave the queen; and he concluded with

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expressing his wish that it were deferred to a distant day, and that a committee were appointed for investigating all the matters which could throw light upon the subject.

Mr. Johnstone made some observations concurring with those of the last speaker, particularly with respect to the importance of settling a specific adequate sum for the civil list, which should not be exceeded; and he supposed that if there had not been such a fund as the *droits* of admiralty to have recourse to, the excess of charges would not have taken place, and ministers would have economised better. He gave an instance of the want of adhering to the strict principle of the civil list, in a payment to sir Sidney Smith of a sum for extraordinary disbursements in 1798, which was not paid till 1811. This circumstance was explained by Mr. Matthew Montague, as the mere discharge of a debt for money advanced.

Sir Thos. Turton, from a cursory view of the documents on the table, would point out one item which in his opinion would render the proposed addition of 70,000*l.* to the civil list wholly unnecessary. This was that of the diplomacy, the charge on which had exceeded the estimate of 1804 by no less a sum than 96,000*l.* He adverted to one particular sum charged, which was that of 16,000*l.* for the marquis Wellesley's mission to Spain for a few months; this might possibly be a very proper item, but without further investigation he could not know it to be so.

Mr. Whitbread, after alluding to the cases of sir S. Smith and marquis Wellesley as proofs that further investigation was requisite,

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called

called upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, before the Speaker should quit the chair, to assign some reasons why the examination required should not be made. The House was required to declare blindfold by this bill that such an excess as 124,000*l.* ought to be incurred; the fact of which excess only came out by a side wind when the bill was brought forward. He then stated various objections to the bill, of a similiar kind to those advanced by other speakers.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made a reply of considerable length, in which he defended the general principle of the bill, and explained the cases of those persons whose grants had been particularly alluded to. Mr. Ponsonby then recapitulated some of the objections made on his side of the House; and Mr. Adam gave reasons why it was proper that the bill should go into a committee. The House then divided upon the question, that the Speaker do now leave the chair, which was carried by 141 to 59.

The House having gone into a committee on the bill, the first clause, granting to his majesty during his indisposition a further sum from the consolidated fund was read, and the blanks were filled up with 70,000*l.* to commence from February 18, 1812. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then proposed that the other clauses down to clause 14th should be postponed, it being his intention to divide the bill into two, and incorporate the omitted clauses in a separate bill. On the reading of the 14th clause, by which the Regent declares his intention of transferring 50,000*l.* a year issued to him from the exchequer, in aid of the civil list, some

of the opposition members suggested that the consent of his Royal Highness should be expressly signified, before the House could proceed in the business. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then signified the Prince's consent, which was entered on the Journals.

The committee on the bill being resumed, Mr. Brand objected to the sum of 70,000*l.* remaining at the disposal of the executive in addition to the present civil list. Mr. Adam rose, and made a particular statement of his Royal Highness's affairs, of which he had been a managing trustee, which removed Mr. B.'s objection, and seemed to produce a general wish that his Royal Highness should be relieved from the embarrassments under which he had so long laboured. The 14th clause being passed, the 15th was read, on which Mr. Brougham strongly objected to the addition of the 124,000*l.* from a secret fund to supply the deficiencies of the civil list. The House divided upon the clause, and the numbers appeared for it 105, against it 33. The other clauses were then read, and the report was ordered for the following day.

On January 18th, the question being put, that the report of this bill be brought up, Mr. Brougham rose to state his objections to it. These chiefly turned upon the want of sufficient investigation into the state of the civil list, and the grants made upon it, and the separate influence which would be established by the provisions of the bill. He was briefly corrected in some of his statements by Mr. Rose. Mr. Bennet then made a speech of some length, of which the chief topic was the influence of the crown

crown in the House of Commons, the progress of which he traced historically. Mr. Sheridan then rose as the advocate of the Queen and the Prince of Wales, and recommended that the public should take upon itself the debts of the latter, extinguishing all question of the arrears of the duchy of Cornwall. The report at length was brought up and agreed to.

The remaining proceedings on this business afforded nothing new or memorable. The whole arrangement was finally distributed into

three bills, viz. the King's Household bill, the Household Officers' bill, and the Regency Expenses bill. At the third reading, January 31, Mr. Bennet proposed a clause for incapacitating such officers as held places in the household from sitting in parliament, which was negatived, and the bill was passed. On its third reading in the House of Lords, February 7th, some observations were made upon it by lord Grenville, but no debate ensued; and the royal assent was soon after given.

CHAPTER III.

Bill for a Nightly Watch in London.—Debate on the Droits of Admiralty.—Motion for inquiring into the Jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts.

THE horror impressed by the murders committed in the metropolis at the close of the last year, had occasioned many voluntary associations for improving the nocturnal security of the inhabitants, which in general appeared to be inadequately provided for by the existing regulations of the police; and government at length thought it expedient to take up the matter. On January 18th Mr. Secretary Ryder rose in the House of Commons to move for a committee to examine into the state of the nightly watch of the metropolis. After adverting to the alarming fact of the late murders, and to the unprecedented multiplication of offences of a less horrid description during the last three or four months, he observed, that in former times each parish provided for its own watch, and it was not till 1774 that an act passed which applied only to 15 of the most populous parishes, and which appointed directors and trustees under whose control the watch, patrol, and beadles were placed. It could be no wonder that this was found insufficient since the vast increase of the metropolis, and many instances might likewise be mentioned in which the provisions of the act were evaded or neglected. If the House should agree to the

appointment of the committee, it would be for that to decide whether it were advisable to alter the system entirely, or whether it would be sufficient to enforce the present act. For his own part, he rather inclined to enforcing the present system by adequate provisions, than to establishing a new one. He concluded with making the motion above stated.

Sir Samuel Romilly expressed himself much surprised at the confined terms of the motion. Considering the great alarm that had been excited, he should have thought that a committee appointed on the occasion would have found it necessary to inquire not only into the state of the nightly watch, but into the causes of the alarming increase of felonies and crimes. That such an increase existed was proved by the returns lying upon the table, which he had moved for, and which showed a regular progress of crimes in London and Westminster for some years past. There had been committed to take their trial at the Old Bailey for felonies of various kinds—

In the year 1806	....	899
1807	....	1017
1808	....	1110
1809	....	1342*
1810	....	1424†

It would surely be right to inquire into

* Corrected to 1242

† Corrected to 1207

into the causes of this augmentation, of which many might be mentioned, but at present he would only notice a few. The honourable member then adverted to the system of punishment by promiscuous imprisonment, which associated together the most hardened offenders with those convicted of comparatively slight crimes; to the constitution of the police itself in giving rewards to the officers for the detection of offenders of a certain description, of which the effect was, suffering a growth and multiplication of crimes instead of their prevention; and to the depravation of morals by the encouragement of lotteries. After dwelling at length upon these topics, he concluded with hoping that the motion of his right honourable friend would be withdrawn, and submitted in a much more comprehensive form.

Mr. W. Smith followed in confirmation of the necessity of such an extension of object as that proposed by the last speaker. The late murders, he said, originated in a set of villains about the town whose existence was not imputable to any deficiency in the nightly watch; and unless some change could be produced in their disposition, the only effect of a more vigilant watch in the metropolis would be to drive them into the surrounding villages.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made a number of remarks to show that the considerations above suggested could not properly be referred to the committee proposed, the object of which was to provide a practical remedy for an existing evil.

Mr. Abercromby observed, that two opinions had been advanced,

one that the proposed object of the committee was sufficient, the other that it was insufficient, for remedying the existing evil. He contended that nothing had been said to prove that the state of the police ought to be excluded from the consideration of the committee, and thought that the propriety of extending it to that object was obvious. After various remarks to enforce this opinion, he moved, as an amendment to the original motion, the addition of the following words: "and also into the state of the police of the metropolis."

Mr. Ryder acquiesced in the amendment of the hon. and learned gentleman, provided he would consent to substitute the word "further" for "also," in order that the primary object of the committee might be that which he thought of great practical benefit. (To this alteration Mr. A. consented). He proceeded to take notice of the accusation brought against the police officers as being never disposed to detect offenders unless when stimulated by a great reward. This, from the best information, he stated to be unfounded, and he was convinced that greater efforts had never been made to detect offenders than those in the metropolis during the two last months.

Sir S. Romilly reminded the right honourable secretary, that a reward of 700*l.* had been offered on the late occasions for exciting their activity, a consequence of which had been the apprehension of a great number of persons upon bare suspicion, one of whom was the brother of one of the murdered persons.

Mr. Sheridan began a speech of sarcasm and humour united, by pronouncing

pronouncing the proposition of the right honourable secretary the silliest that could possibly have been made. After supporting this assertion by ridiculing the notion of a grave inquiry into the state of the nightly watch, he digressed to the conduct of the Shadwell magistrates on the late atrocities in that quarter, to the suspicious throw on foreigners and Irishmen, and the harsh treatment of the latter, to the neglect in suffering Williams to commit suicide, and the unseemly parade of his funeral. He concluded with recommending to the right honourable secretary, that as he had shown to-night that he had not as yet thought at all on the subject of the police, he would begin to think of it with all possible dispatch.

Other members joined in the debate, of which it is unnecessary to relate any further particulars. The question was then put and carried, and the committee was named, in which were the members for London, Westminster, Middlesex, and Surrey.

With respect to further proceedings on this subject, we only find that on March 24th the committee appointed for the purpose, presented to the House an elaborate report, in which they suggested a variety of regulations and improvements; that a bill was framed upon these suggestions; and that on July 4th, upon the presenting of a petition against it from one of the London parishes, several members expressed their disapprobation of its provisions, on account of the expense, and the new and extraordinary powers which it would create, and recommended its postponement.

No further mention of it occurs during this session.

On January 21, Mr. Brougham, pursuant to notice, called the attention of the House of Commons to a question which he stated to be simply this, whether the crown had the power to use certain sums of money without any grant from parliament, or even without its privity? That, to which he meant particularly to direct his observations, was the enormous fund called the droits of admiralty, connected with which, however, were the crown revenues arising from the duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster, the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duties raised in Barbadoes and the Leeward Islands, and the surplus of the Scotch revenue. After some statement relative to these last funds, he went to that which was his peculiar topic, viz. the droits of the king as lord high admiral of England, supposed to be vested in the crown, because for the last century the office above mentioned was not conferred away from it. To this belonged all sums arising from wrecks and goods of pirates; but the great bulk of it arose from prizes. All ships detained previously to a declaration of war; all coming into port from ignorance of hostilities between this and other countries; all taken before the issuing of proclamation, and those taken by non-commissioned captors, were sold, and the profits arising from their sequestration composed the droits of admiralty. By the last returns laid before the House on May 30, 1810, it appeared that the sum of 7,344,677*l.* had been paid in on this account since 1793, and it might

might now be fairly stated at eight millions. Thus the crown was receiving an annual revenue of more than 180,000*l.* from a capital said to be vested in it of eight millions. The questions for the House to decide were, therefore, whether by law the crown was separately possessed of these funds; and if this were the case, whether it were safe for the constitution that such a law should remain in force any longer?

With respect to the first of these positions, though he did not mean to dispute the general maxim that "all prize vests in the crown," yet he adduced various facts from history and law, to shew that regal droits and impositions were considered as destined to the service of the country. He next adverted to the proportion which existed between the parliamentary grants and the revenue of the crown previously to the revolution. Before that period, the expenses of war were not regularly supplied by parliament, but generally by the crown, from those funds which it was now contended were the private property of the king. At present, the country furnished all the means of war, whence it seemed just that it should receive all the profits of war. His next argument was drawn from the fact, that parliament had, at various periods of our history, interfered with the prerogative of the crown when it turned into abuse, of which fact he adduced several instances. He then proceeded to remark on the mode in which these droits were received and applied. By whomsoever they were received, they never went into the exchequer, nor were issued thence, but were

paid from the Bank of England, on the authority, not of the privy seal, but of a warrant under the sign manual only. That this manner of issue was unconstitutional, he conceived there would be little difficulty in proving; and he referred to lords Coke, Clarendon, and Somers as authorities to the purpose. Conceiving that he had sufficiently supported the positions above laid down, he now called the attention of the House to the practical observations arising out of the abuses to which the fund alluded to furnished occasion. In the first place, it gave the crown an interest in going to war, and commencing hostilities in a way the least honourable to the national character. To illustrate this fact, he alluded to the Dutch war in the reign of Charles 2nd, begun for the sole purpose of intercepting the Smyrna fleet; and he did not hesitate to attribute to the same disgraceful origin, the capture of the Spanish frigates at the time when a negotiation was carrying on by the ministers at both courts. He then pointed out the means it afforded of accomplishing some vile job, or paying some worthless minion whose claims the minister would not dare to bring before the cognizance of parliament. It was enough for him to have shown that this fund was liable to be made subservient to corrupt purposes, without being obliged to prove that it had been actually so applied; yet, as he seemed to be challenged to produce facts, he was by no means unwilling to produce them. He then, from the papers on the table, made various observations on the many large additions to the civil list in the present reign by the sums voted to supply

supply its deficiencies, and the great excess of expenditure still acknowledged, which had been paid out of this fund without application to parliament; and he went through several of the items of grants from the admiralty droits, which appeared to him of an unconstitutional kind. He concluded a long and eloquent speech with moving a string of resolutions. The first of these declared "That the possession by the crown of funds raised otherwise than by the grant of supplies from the commons in parliament assembled, and applicable to purposes not previously ascertained by parliament, is contrary to the spirit of the constitution, liable to great abuses, and full of danger to the rights of the subject, and the interests of the country." The subsequent resolutions went on to assert the duty of the House of Commons to inquire into the nature of such funds—to state what the funds are which are called droits of admiralty, and their present amount, and also the fact of their having been disposed of without the interference of parliament—and to assert the intention of the House forthwith to proceed to inquire into the best means for bringing these funds under the controul of parliament, for the purpose of applying them to the public service, and of providing such additional sums, if any, as may be necessary to the maintenance of the royal household.

Mr. Brand rose to second the motion. He thought it almost an axiom in the constitution that this House ought to have the disposal of all the revenue of the crown, and

he recapitulated some of the observations of the former speaker.

Mr. Courtenay said, his principal object in rising was to protest against the principle of having a stipendiary king, with an income fixed by parliament, and never to be exceeded. He thought the honourable and learned gentleman's supposition of the prerogative of the crown being abused in the manner represented, improbable, and the danger theoretical; and he declared his intention of voting against the motion.

The Attorney General began with considering the first question stated by his hon. and learned friend; whether the crown had a right to the revenue in dispute? In order to show that his Majesty was not dealing with, as his own, what was not his own, he would refer to the civil list acts. In the 1st of the present king, by which 800,000*l.* was settled upon him for life, as in former cases, many revenues were collected into one aggregate fund and named specifically, but among them the droits of admiralty were not included. He then took a review of the prior acts on that subject to that of William and Mary, in none of which that fund was alluded to; it therefore remained with his majesty as before. The next consideration was, whether it ought to be taken from him? If a case had been made out by his honourable friend imputing to ministers the fact of having corruptly taken and applied that fund, there would have been some ground for his motion; but as the question stood, they were to decide whether they would take it away, because it was possible

sible that it might be misapplied. On these grounds he thought the motion unnecessary, and should oppose it.

Mr. Davies Giddy agreed that the right to these droits, from the conquest to the present time, was vested entirely in the king; but when any revenue was so vested, there were vested with it co-relative duties. These were no longer required from the crown, as the revenue was now separated and granted for particular purposes. As to meeting the excess of the civil list expenditure out of this fund, he thought any other source better than one so uncertain and precarious. On the whole, he was for carrying the amount of this fund to the public stock, or, at any rate, leaving it with parliament to dispose of it.

Mr. Stephen, though convinced that the droits in question belonged to the crown, would not go so far as to contend that the House had no controul over them. He entered into some calculations to show that his honourable and learned friend had over-stated the amount at eight millions, and pointed out several considerable deductions; and also argued in favour of the application of the fund that had been made in several instances, which could not without much inconvenience have been affected by a specific vote in parliament.

After some other remarks on each side, the Chancellor of the Exchequer rose, and spoke with some severity of the "declamatory attack" made by the honourable and learned mover. He thought it very extraordinary that any lawyer should call in question the legality of these droits as exist-

ing in the crown. He said that the gentlemen who had adopted the mover's side of the question, had disclaimed any intention of stating instances of abuse, and merely contended that there was liability to abuse: whereas a material part of the speech of the mover went to make the impression that the government had been guilty of successive acts of abuse. He made some particular observations on this head; and concluded with saying, that conceiving that the proposed resolutions stated that to be law which was not law, and that to be expedient which was not expedient, he should give them his decided opposition.

Sir F. Burdett spoke strongly in favour of the motion, on the general ground, that the crown could not hold property on any other tenure than for the benefit of the public; and contended that it was now become the duty of parliament to controul the fund in question.

Mr. Tierney, though differing from his honourable and learned friend in the mode of his motion, yet agreed with it in substance; and he proposed the following amendment: "That this House having taken into its serious consideration the unprecedented sums, at different and uncertain periods, within the last 20 years, received and disposed of by the crown as droits, is deeply impressed with the necessity of inquiring into and ascertaining the extent and application of the same." If this motion should be carried, he would follow it up by moving for an address to the Prince Regent, that there be laid before the House an account of the amount and payments from the droits from Jan. 1810 to Jan. 1812;

and

and also that a similar account be laid before the House at the beginning of every session of parliament.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer had no objection to the production of a paper similar to that which brought down the account to May 1810, continued to the present time.

Mr. Brougham, in reply, maintained that the bargain between the sovereign and the parliament had been abrogated, and that the crown could not, with safety to the constitution, retain such sums at its disposal.

The House divided upon Mr. Brougham's motion, when there appeared for it 38, against it 93: the resolutions moved by Mr. B. were negatived without a division. Mr. Tierney's amendment was then put to the vote, and rejected by exactly the same numbers as in the preceding division. Mr. Brougham then moved for the appointment of a committee on the subject, when another division took place, for the committee 36, against it 94.

It may be mentioned, as a sequel of this subject, without entering into the particulars of a debate consisting of statements of individual facts and their explanation or contradiction, that on February 25th, Mr. Brougham moved in the House, "That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the application of the various sums received as droits of the crown and of admiralty," and that the motion was negatived.

Lord Folkstone, having presented to the House of Commons a petition from a young woman who had been thrown into gaol at Bristol on a writ *de excommunicato*

capiendo above two years before, where she was detained from the inability of paying costs and fees, caused the same to be read on January 23, as the foundation of a motion. He introduced it with saying, that having found upon inquiry that no legal remedy existed for the hardships under which the petitioner laboured, he had been induced to examine into the nature, origin, and history of ecclesiastical jurisdictions, the result of which was a conviction of the necessity of parliamentary interposition to rescue the subject from their exorbitant and unconstitutional power. His lordship then gave an historical account of the progress of these jurisdictions in this country from the time immediately preceding the conquest, from which he shewed that they originated in usurpations, and that notwithstanding repeated complaints against them, nothing had been done in remedying their abuses since the Reformation. He then adverted to the present state of the spiritual courts, and took a review of the case of the petitioner, Mary Ann Dix, as well as of several other persons, who had suffered under the process of excommunication. He concluded with moving, "That a committee be appointed to inquire into the state of the jurisdiction of the inferior ecclesiastical courts, and to consider whether any reformation is necessary to be made therein, and to report their opinion to the house."

The Hon. W. Herbert agreed that it would not be desirable that the law should remain as it was in many respects, but said that an inquiry into the proceedings of the inferior ecclesiastical courts would
not

not remedy the evil. The hardships complained of in a great measure arose from the jealousy of the courts of common law in regard to the proceedings of the ecclesiastical courts, which compelled them to a circuitous mode of giving effect to their decisions, thereby enhancing the costs. The appointment of a committee could not give relief in any one of the points to which his noble friend had alluded: he thought, however, there was one subject to which he had referred, which was of great importance, namely, the appointment of persons to exercise ecclesiastical authority in the inferior courts, who did not possess the requisite qualifications.

Sir William Scott said, that he could hardly believe that the noble mover was himself aware of the nature and effect of his motion, and he trusted the House would pause before they agreed to the proposed inquiry. Let them consider the number of persons who must be brought up to be examined from different parts of the country at an expense they were ill able to discharge. Let them also reflect that every court, however inferior in its jurisdiction, was entitled to be held in a decent state of respect till it was proved to have done something to forfeit its character. The points which ecclesiastical courts were called upon to decide were not so limited as the noble lord supposed. They included matrimonial and testamentary law, tythes, and many cases affecting the civil rights of mankind. He should not say that such jurisdiction ought to be conferred on the consistorial courts, but such they had enjoyed for centuries. Our

ecclesiastical law had been improved, and under the guidance of the courts of common law, had approximated to the changes in the situation of the country. The noble lord had been able to select only seven cases of what he called abuse and oppression, and he had erred in terming those causes, which were in fact merely suits, the ordinary process of all who claimed legal redress for an illegal wrong. Sir W. then proceeded to comment upon some of these cases, and particularly on that which was the subject of the petition before the House. After various observations in defence of the ecclesiastical courts, he said, that he did not pretend to assert that their constitution might not be improved, and, in his opinion, a diminution of their number would be beneficial. As to the particular punishment by excommunication, he wished some other were substituted in its place. It appeared to him an abuse of a religious ceremony, and that it would not be difficult to find a substitute for it which would be more efficacious, less expensive, oppressive, and unseemly.

Sir S. Romilly spoke in favour of the proposed inquiry, as not of the extensive nature which had been represented, but only in the first instance requiring an investigation of the cases particularly before them, and of the state of the courts out of which they had issued. He thought much good might arise from it, especially if the right honourable gentleman, who had distinctly expressed himself in favour of an alteration in the existing law, and whose known admiration of established institutions would preclude the danger of a cry
of

of innovation, would lend his aid in carrying the requisite improvements into effect. Sir S. then dwelt upon the particular circumstances of hardship and cruelty in the case of the petitioner, whose only crime had been the application of a coarse expression to another woman in the same low class of life.

Sir John Nicholl defended the conduct of the ecclesiastical court in which the case in question arose, and also the ecclesiastical jurisdictions in general, at the same time acknowledging that the mode of excommunication was objectionable, and that a remedy for its inconveniences was desirable.

Mr. W. Smith spoke in favour of the motion, and referred to a case of a seven years imprisonment of two females at Nottingham for a contempt in an ecclesiastical court. As to the objection that the proposed inquiry would cast a slur on

the courts in question, he said, was there not a standing order of the House that a grand committee of inquiry into courts of justice should sit every Saturday? He concluded with expressing his opinion that all other modes of rectifying these abuses would fail, and therefore he would vote for the motion.

The Attorney General said, that a challenge had been given to his right honourable friend to bring in a bill on this subject, which he did not doubt would be accepted.

Lord Folkstone begged to be informed by Sir W. Scott if such was his intention. Sir William replied, amidst cheers from all sides, that if it was the sense of the House that such a measure was expedient, he should certainly comply.

Lord F. said, that with this understanding he should with pleasure withdraw his motion, which, after leave obtained from the House, was accordingly done.

CHAPTER IV.

Motion on the State of Ireland—New Bill to prohibit the granting of Offices in Reversion—Bills for the Punishment of Frame-breaking, and for the Preservation of Peace in the County of Nottingham.

THE state of Ireland, in which country the proceedings of the catholics in furtherance of their plan of petitioning by delegation on one hand, and the opposition of the government to their measures on the other, had occasioned a considerable ferment at the close of the past year, early engaged the attention of parliament; and debates arose in both Houses on that topic, the great length of which will permit us only to give a slight sketch of the arguments employed by the principal speakers—a circumstance, indeed, the less to be regretted, as the subject of the catholic claims has already been rendered familiar to the public.

On January 31, Earl Fitzwilliam rose in the House of Lords, in pursuance of his notice, to call the attention of their lordships to the situation of a very important part of the British empire. He little thought, when he gave notice of his motion, that he should have to lament the existence of circumstances which must add to the discontents already subsisting in that country. Yet, from the account which had reached London by the last mail, he found that the jury impaneled to try one of the catholic delegates had been tampered with, and that the crown

solicitor had been marking and altering the list in a manner that proved the exercise of the undue influence of government. After some observations on this point, he said, that independently of this circumstance, there were sufficient grounds for his motion in the discontents arising from the denial to the catholic body of the enjoyment of the rights possessed by their fellow citizens; the injustice and impolicy of which denial he proceeded to shew; and he concluded with moving, “That the House do resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to take into consideration the present situation of affairs in Ireland.”

The motion was seconded by the Duke of Devonshire; after which the Earl of Rosse rose, and first remarked on the uncertain grounds upon which the noble earl had made his attack on the Irish government. He then made a number of observations on the tone of hostility assumed by the catholics in their conventional measures, which necessarily required the vigour of government to resist it.

The Earl of Aberdeen argued on the same side. After all the concessions made to the catholics, of what (said he) did they now complain? Their complaint was reduced

duced to this, that they were still precluded from holding certain offices in the state. Would their advocates contend that as a matter of right they could claim an admissibility to them? If that doctrine was set up, he, for one, would not hesitate to declare that it was not tenable. His lordship then went into a vindication of the measures of the Irish government, and the late judicial proceedings; and he concluded with regarding the question as one of expediency, on which ground he should vote against the motion.

The Marquis of Downshire spoke chiefly to the act of union, and the failure of the assurance given to the Irish catholics at the time of passing it, and which, if persisted in, would cause a permanent separation of heart and mind, notwithstanding a nominal union.

The Earl of Hardwicke alluded to his own administration in Ireland, and could see no reason why any penal laws against the catholics should remain in force, when the cause of their enactment no longer subsisted.

Of Lord Sidmouth's speech, the most observable part was the view he took of the subject, in the following terms:—He asked, was not this a religious question? Was not the house called upon to protect the true religion established by law in this country? And must they not greatly detract from that estimation in which it was essential it should be held, by allowing it to be supposed that they so far countenanced mass, as to put it on a level with the established religion—allowing it to be regarded as a matter of indifference whether persons went

to church, to mass, or to the synagogue?

Marquis Wellesley began a speech of great force and comprehension, by a view of all that had been done by the Irish government in this matter, the whole of which he vigorously defended. He asserted that no obstruction had been given to the legal exercise of the right of petitioning by the catholics; that the convention act was a measure of prevention proved salutary by experience; that due warning had been given to the catholics of the late intention of putting it in force; that the legal proceedings had been just and dignified; and that on these points there was no ground for the proposed inquiry. He then proceeded to a general consideration of the cause of the Irish catholics, respecting which, he said, he did not agree with any of the declared champions in this conflict. His noble friend, the earl of Aberdeen, had most justly styled it a question of mere state expediency, in which opinion he entirely concurred. Toleration (said the marquis) is the intermediate point between persecution and encouragement; the boundaries of these, however, can no otherwise be ascertained, than by reference to the relative situation of the parties, and the circumstances of the state and times. It is a clear and undeniable maxim, that every state possesses a right to restrain whatever is dangerous to its security, and no sect or individual can assert a right against the state. On the other hand, every restraint excluding any description of subjects from the advantages possessed by the community, is a positive

positive evil, which can be endured only so long as the probable danger to be incurred by its removal exceeds the mischief of its continuance. How does this reasoning apply to the catholics of Ireland? what justification remains for continuing the restraint of which they complain? The marquis then declared that, in his judgment, the mischief of continuing the system of restraint greatly overbalanced any danger to be apprehended from reverting to the more mild and liberal policy which had adorned the earlier periods of his majesty's reign. The political power possessed by the catholics of Ireland afforded matter of deep reflection. It must be the policy of every wise state to connect all persons possessing such power with the general frame of the community, to blend their individual pursuits with the common interests of the state, and to attach them by the ties of honourable ambition and honest gain to the established order of the government. It was not so much a question whether additional political power should be given to the Irish catholics, as whether they should now be refused those appendages to their political power which would identify its exercise with the interests of the state, and constitute the bonds and pledges of attachment to government. After pursuing this vein of reflection for some time, lord Wellesley touched upon the delicate point of the danger to the protestant establishment in Ireland; and contended, that the removal of the catholic restraints, so far from being dangerous to the establishment, was indispensably necessary for its security, since it could never be safe

while such a force of discontent was arrayed against it, a force which would be disarmed most effectually by abolishing the causes of dissatisfaction. He then shewed, that their desires were not unreasonable, or the offspring of a criminal ambition, but implied a just sense of the constitutional use of the advantages they had already gained. Having expressed his opinion on these points, he proceeded to say, that he trusted he should not be accused of a spirit of procrastination or delusion if he now objected to enter into a committee for the purpose of instantaneously removing the restrictions under which the catholics laboured. His reasons for this conduct were drawn from the menacing attitude which they assumed, their outrages on the law of the land, the passing trials of the offenders, and the propriety of giving time for the return of tranquillity before the voice of petition could be heard in a tone adapted to the solemnity of the occasion.

The Marquis of Lansdowne wished to inquire how the last noble speaker, after urging his arguments for the removal of all partial restrictions, could come to his final conclusions. In his mind there could be no period more appropriate for a full discussion of this subject than the present, when parliament was about establishing a new government. He then took a view of that part of the marquis's speech which went to vindicate the conduct of the Irish government, and attempted to shew that it had been wavering and inconsistent, and that the judicial proceedings had been deficient in candour and justice.

A number of other lords afterwards spoke both for and against the motion; but as their speeches chiefly consisted in recapitulations of the arguments already advanced, it does not seem necessary to notice them individually. After a very late sitting, the House divided on the motion; when the numbers were, contents, 42; proxies, 37; total, 79: non-contents, 86; proxies, 76; total, 162. Majority against the motion, 83.

In the House of Commons, on Feb. 3, a similar motion for appointing a committee on the state of Ireland, was made by lord Morpeth. Of the debate which ensued, and which was still longer and more copious than that in the House of Lords, being continued by adjournment to the following day, it would be impossible to give even a summary view without occupying more of our pages than we can spare from other purposes. In general, it embraced all the topics discussed in the other House, relative to abstract right and political expediency, to the hazards attending the granting or the refusing of the catholic claims, and to the conduct of the Irish government in its interference respecting the delegation of the catholics. One of the most admired speeches was that of Mr. Canning, who, taking the ground opened by marquis Wellesley in the Lords, maintained with great force, and with much historical illustration, the political wisdom of granting the catholics an eligibility to all the offices in the state from which they were still excluded, but at the same time deprecated the agitation of the question in parliament till men's minds were suffered to

cool. The other speakers, however, comprehending almost the whole debating force of the House, took a decided part either for, or against, the object of the motion; and on a division at a very late hour there appeared, for lord Morpeth's motion, 135; against it, 229; majority, 94—a proportion considerably less than that in the other House.

It is observable, that although the terms of these motions included a consideration of the general state of Ireland, yet the subject of the catholics was alone the matter of discussion; whence these debates may be considered as only a renewal of those which had before occurred on direct questions relative to the same topics.

On Jan. 28, Mr. Bankes gave notice in the House of Commons, that the bill to prohibit the granting of offices in reversion being to expire on the 5th of February, it was his intention to render it a permanent measure, and he therefore moved for leave to bring in a new one for that purpose; which was accordingly given.

Mr. Bankes, on Feb. 7th, having moved the second reading of his bill, Mr. Dundas rose, and said that he should expect more substantial reasons than any he had yet heard from the honourable gentleman before he could give his vote for making that permanent, which had hitherto been only temporary. He understood it to have originated in a wish of the finance committee, that those sinecure places might not be granted in reversion, which they might think it expedient to abolish, and therefore a suspension of the power of the crown had been asked. Was it

it too much to desire that this branch of the prerogative of the crown might not be destroyed, at least till the embryo plans of the honourable gentleman who recommended such a measure were known? He also said, that it would be to no purpose to press the bill here, since it would certainly be thrown out in another place.

Mr. Banks moved that the entry in the Journals of March 24, 1807, of the resolution of the house respecting offices in reversion be read: it was as follows—"Resolved;—that no office, place, employment, or salary, in any part of his Majesty's dominions, ought hereafter to be granted in reversion." He then said, that the introduction of this bill was not in the least connected with any pending inquiry. He stated its origin and progress, and said, that although that house, not being able to carry it through as a perpetual measure, had made it a temporary one, they had by no means abandoned their first intention. Why were they to suppose that the other branch of the legislature would continue its opposition, and was incapable of changing its opinion? As the evil proposed to be remedied by this bill was of a perpetual nature, the law ought to be perpetual also. As a measure of economy, he had never held it out as likely to produce a material effect, but the committee had dwelt upon it as having a tendency to that end. With respect to the prerogative of the crown, it tended rather to increase than diminish it; for if one right of the crown were taken away, another of more consequence would be substituted to

it. The bill was also necessary to remedy a growing evil. Many of the places recently granted in reversion were not so formerly, and what was there to prevent such a practice from being extended? Pensions were now granted in reversion; and this abuse could only be put an end to by a reprobation of the principle shewn in both houses of parliament.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer treated the bill as of such slight importance, that it was not worth supporting at the hazard of a difference between the two houses of parliament.

Sir S. Romilly denied that the bill which had several times received the sanction of the house was of slight importance, or that, as the right honourable Chancellor had suggested, it had been previously carried by popular clamour; and he repeated the arguments of the mover in its favour.

Mr. Whitbread remarked, that the only two members who had spoken against the bill were two very principal reversionists, and he made some pointed observations on the Chancellor of the Exchequer's opposition to it.

Several other members spoke, all of them in support of the bill; and Mr. Ponsonby, who concluded, urged the house with the charges of inconsistency, and inattention to the wishes of the public, which their rejection of it would bring upon them. The house then divided upon the question of the second reading, when the numbers were, ayes, 54; noes, 56; leaving a majority of two against the bill. A second division took place on the Chancellor of the Exchequer's motion

tion, that the bill be read a second time this day six months, which was carried by 55 votes to 52. A third division on the motion "That the house do now adjourn," was rejected by 59 against 45.

On March 10, Mr. Banks moved for leave to bring in a bill to prevent the granting of offices in reversion for a time to be limited. He said that the proposed bill would be exactly the same with that introduced into the House of Lords during the last year, and which had passed that house. Leave being accordingly given, he immediately brought in the bill, which was read the first time. The term of limitation which it proposed was two years. No opposition being made to it in its progress, the bill was brought into the House of Lords, and ordered for a second reading on March 24. On that occasion Earl Grosvenor said, that he had a strong aversion to temporary measures, and was thoroughly convinced that these grants ought to be entirely abolished. He made a variety of observations to shew the importance of such an abolition, and asserted, that if it had taken place at the beginning of the present reign, several places which now existed would have been abolished altogether, to the saving of many millions to the state. He concluded with announcing his intention, when the bill came to be committed, of moving to extend the prohibition to twenty years.

On April 10, the house having resolved itself into a committee on the bill in question, Earl Grosvenor rose, and after repeating some of his former remarks, moved, as an amendment, that the suspension,

instead of being continued till 1814, should be continued to 1840.

The Earl of Lauderdale said, he would support the amendment, in order to get rid of the repeated discussions on this subject, which he thought tended to mislead the public, and produce a false supposition that an important saving might be made. He then went on to shew that this would not be the case, nor would the bill have any tendency to reduce the influence of the crown; and he asserted that this influence was much less now in the two houses, and had been less since his political career commenced, than at a former period.

Earl Grey was called up by this assertion of his noble friend, who began with observing, that though he did not attach much importance to the immediate operation of the measure, yet he attached a great deal to the principle. He would wish to shew to the people of this country, suffering under excessive burdens, that parliament was anxious to relieve them; and when a question of reform was agitated, it was of great importance that it should be carried through. He knew three offices in reversion, producing, he believed, an annual sum of 60,000*l*. which from being thus held could not be regulated by parliament, as being looked upon in the light of a freehold; though without that circumstance they would probably have been abolished. The noble earl (Lauderdale) had told them that the influence of the crown in parliament had diminished. He was aware of the fact as far as it concerned the direct influence, but it was impossible to doubt that its influence

influence had greatly increased. This last, under the present circumstances, could not be diminished: the other, he conceived that the proposed measure would tend to lessen; and if it did not go so far as he could wish, he approved of it as a kind of pledge of a serious intention in the house to do away those abuses which it was in their power to remove.

The Earl of Liverpool said he did not mean to discuss the principle of the bill, but would confine himself to some observations on the amendment. This, he contended, went to destroy altogether the principle of the bill. The question now was, not whether sinecures and reversions should be abolished, but whether, with reference to certain inquiries pending in the other house, they would for a limited time suspend such appointments till the result of these inquiries was known? The proposition, therefore, contained in the bill, the provisions of which would expire in two years, was reasonable; but it would be a mockery to enact a suspension of twenty-six years more. He then proceeded to make some remarks on the influence of the crown, and asserted that it had not increased with the increasing establishments of the country in the manner stated by the noble earl. In conclusion, he said the bill should have his support in the state in which it came from the Commons.

Earl Morton called upon their Lordships to consider what would be the effect of the amendment with a view to the prerogatives of the crown, one of which would be suspended by its operation during twenty-eight years; and he inti-

mated that the Regent, by giving his assent to such a bill, would become an unfaithful guardian of the trust committed to him.

Lord Holland spoke to order, and asked if the noble earl meant to assert that the Prince Regent was not vested in all the prerogatives of the crown, or had not a will of his own?

Earl Morton explained; and after some further debate the amendment proposed by Lord Grosvenor was negatived without a division, and the report on the bill was ordered to be received. It afterwards passed into a law without further discussion.

The disturbances in the town and county of Nottingham having continued during the winter, to the terror of all peaceable inhabitants, and the destruction of much valuable property, and the practice of frame-breaking having been organized into a regular system, which the exertions of the magistrates, with the aid of military force, were found unable to counteract, Mr. Secretary Ryder, on Feb. 14, introduced to the House of Commons two bills for the purpose of adding new legal powers to those already subsisting, for the suppression of disorders now become so serious. He introduced the subject by giving a summary account of all that had hitherto been done by government in the matter, and by stating the causes which rendered the detection and apprehension of offenders so difficult. He then said, that by an act of the 28th of the King, the breaking of frames was a minor felony, punishable with transportation for fourteen years; but this having proved completely inefficacious in deter-

ring from the commission of the offence, it was his intention to propose that it should now be made capital. He was by no means a friend to the increase of capital punishments, but the present situation of the scene of those illegal proceedings was exactly such as came within the definition of the best ancient lawyers, when speaking of a state of things which called for severe punishment. He then quoted the authority of Sir Matt. Hale, and applied it to the existing case of Nottingham. This was his first measure; the second was to enable the lord-lieutenant of the county, the sheriff, or five justices, when disturbances existed, to call a meeting, and give immediate public notice that a special meeting would be held for the purpose of obtaining lists of all the male inhabitants of the county above the age of 21, in order to select from them such number of constables as they think necessary, and establish watch and ward throughout the disturbed parts. He might be told that part of this plan was law already; but it was law which had fallen into disuse. The right honourable secretary concluded by moving, "That leave be given to bring in a bill for the more exemplary punishment of persons destroying or injuring any stocking or lace-frames, or other machines or engines used in the frame-work knitting manufactory, or any articles or goods in such frames, or machines."

Colonel Eyre, member for Nottinghamshire, seconded the motion, and confirmed the Secretary's statements respecting the riots.

Mr. J. Smith, member for Nottingham, suggested, as another cause of the riots, besides the de-

cay of trade, a custom adopted by some manufacturers of paying their workmen in goods charged beyond their value, which he thought deserved inquiring into. He was sorry to say, that he never witnessed so much misery as when he was last at Nottingham. He allowed that the mischief was dreadful, but felt very unwilling that the punishment of death should be resorted to. He bore an ample testimony to the zeal and abilities displayed by the right honourable Secretary in the whole of this business, and gave great praise to the conduct of the magistrates of Nottingham, who, he said, in their provision for keeping the peace had gone beyond the measure of the proposed bill. He further observed, that the existing law against frame-breaking, extended only to stocking-frames, and not to lace-frames.

Of the other speakers at this early stage, some recommended a committee of inquiry previously to an enactment which constituted a new capital offence, and thought the case was not of urgency sufficient to demand hasty remedies, especially as the mover had acknowledged that the disturbances had been gradually diminishing, and were now nearly subsided; others declared themselves convinced of the immediate necessity of strong measures. A division upon the motion at length took place, in which it was carried by 49 votes against 11.

Mr. Secretary Ryder then moved, "That leave be given to bring in a bill for the more effectual preservation of the peace within the county of Nottingham, and the town and county of the town of Nottingham."

ham." Leave was accordingly granted, and the two bills were brought in and read the first time.

Mr. Herbert then moved, "That a committee be appointed to inquire into the late riots in the county of Nottingham and the neighbouring counties, and what further legal provisions, if any, are necessary for the suppression thereof, and also the steps which have been taken for the discovery of the offenders."

Mr. Secretary Ryder argued against the appointment of a committee as wholly unnecessary; and on a division, the motion was negatived by 40 against 15.

On Feb. 17, Mr. Ryder having moved for the second reading of the bill for the more exemplary punishment of frame-breaking, &c. Mr. Abercromby rose to declare his objections to the bill, chiefly on the ground of its being ineffectual for its purpose. He was followed by several speakers on both sides, whose arguments differed little from those advanced on the former reading. Sir Samuel Romilly, whose attention had already been particularly directed to capital punishments, took a leading part in opposition to the bill. He said, it was folly to talk of the terror that would arise from converting the punishment of transportation for fourteen years into that of death; the one would always have almost an equal influence upon the human mind with the other, and he would answer for it, that this terror would not tend to diminish the evil. If the existence of this evil were to be attributed to a conspiracy for suppressing evidence, the terror of a greater punishment would tend the more to keep wit-

nesses from coming forward. The bill was totally directed against individual depredation, and not against the conspiracy which had given birth to the disturbances. He complained of the want of examination and inquiry; and said, that in after-times it would astonish an English House of Commons to find, on inspection of the Journals, that in a case of life and death their predecessors had upon only a few minutes examination adopted a measure of so much importance.

Sir Arthur Piggott, on the same side, observed, that if ever a legislature took a wrong step, it was when there existed a degree of indignation against persons who had committed violent aggressions against private property and the public peace. Before any one asked him to extend the punishment and make it capital, he ought to prove that the law had been enforced and found ineffectual; but as it did not appear that there had been any prosecution upon the 28th of the King, there was no authority for saying that the law was not adequate to its purpose, except that there was a necessity of extending it to the breaking of lace-frames.

On the other side, the peculiar danger and extent of the outrages which had been committed, was dwelt upon as a call upon the legislature to enact some more severe punishment than had hitherto been applied to the case. The house at length divided on the second reading, which was carried by 94 against 17. Mr. Ryder then moving that the bill be committed for to-morrow, Sir S. Romilly moved as an amendment to substitute

tute Wednesday, which was negatived by 80 against 15.

It is not necessary to trace the further passage of this bill through the House of Commons, since the additional debates were productive of no new arguments. After a third reading on February 20, it passed without any other division.

On Feb. 27, the bill was ordered for a second reading in the House of Lords, when the Earl of Liverpool stated its nature and necessity.

Lord Byron then rose, and in the first speech he had made before that assembly, described in very strong terms the distresses which had driven the poor manufacturers to acts of outrage, and expressed his detestation of the sanguinary spirit of a measure which, he contended, had only been resorted to in consequence of the neglect of government to apply timely remedies for the evil.

Other lords in opposition spoke against the bill, with even greater severity than had been used in the House of Commons.

At the close of the debate, the house divided on the motion of Lord Lauderdale to adjourn the discussion till Monday, when there appeared, contents, 17; non-contents, 32; majority, 15; after which the bill was read. His lordship's motion, that the judges be ordered to attend on Monday, was negatived.

Upon the order of the day for the committal of the bill, March 2, Earl Grosvenor rose to move the discharge of the order. The debate was thereupon renewed with the same arguments which had been before used, and the question being put upon the motion, it was

negatived. Two proposed amendments were agreed to; one, that the *attempt* to destroy frames should be made only a misdemeanour; the other, that it should not be imperative upon the person injured to proceed immediately to prosecute, provided he could shew a reasonable cause for his delay. The bill was then committed, two peers, Lords Lauderdale and Rosslyn, entering a protest against it.

The debate was briefly resumed, on March 5, on the motion for the third reading, but it passed without a division.

The fellow-bill for the preservation of the peace in the town and county of Nottingham, was brought to a committee on Feb. 18, when, on the suggestion of some members for extending its provisions to the neighbouring counties, Mr. Secretary Ryder moved, that it be an instruction to the committee, that they be empowered to extend the provisions of the bill to any other county in Great Britain, which was agreed to.

When the report of the committee was brought up on February 26, Mr. Ryder said, that since the bill had been before the house, he had received several communications, which had made it advisable to extend its provisions to the whole kingdom. The bill had been, in consequence, new modelled in many parts, and in this state was submitted for discussion to the committee. The clauses then went through the committee.

No further discussion is recorded respecting this bill, which, with the former, passed into a law. The operation of both of them was limited to March 1, 1814.

CHAPTER V.

Debate on the Expulsion of Mr. Walsh—Renewal of the Gold Coin and Bank-Note Bill—Motion of Lord Boringdon for an efficient Administration—Provision for the Princesses.

A PRIVATE matter, which was discussed in the House of Commons at the early part of the session, is entitled to notice, on account of its involving a principle of parliamentary law, though otherwise it might have been passed over in the public history of the year. Mr. Benjamin Walsh, a member of parliament, had been guilty of a very gross breach of trust in his business of a stock-broker; for which he had been tried at the Old Bailey, and convicted of felony. He had afterwards obtained the royal pardon for his crime, on the ground that it did not properly amount to felony; but his remaining a member of the house could not but be regarded as derogatory to the dignity of that assembly. On Feb. 25, on the motion of Mr. Bankes, copies of the papers relative to his trial and conviction were laid before the house, and an order was made for his attendance on the 27th. On that day nothing more was done than taking some preliminary steps to further proceedings. Repeated orders having been made for Mr. Walsh's appearance, with which he did not comply, but stated by letter his desire that the proceedings of the house should not be delayed on that account, Mr. Bankes, on March 5, rose, and after a

speech setting forth the enormity of the offence of which the member in question had been convicted, and the practice of the house of expelling for notorious crimes, particularly for pecuniary frauds and breaches of trust, he moved, "That Benjamin Walsh, esq. a member of this House, having been tried at the Old Bailey, in January last, for felony, and convicted thereof, and having received a free pardon, by reason of his offence not amounting to felony in the opinion of the judges; but gross fraud and notorious breach of trust having been proved against him on the said trial, is unworthy and unfit to continue a member in this House."

Sir Arthur Piggott, in opposition to the motion, adduced various arguments to prove the incompleteness of the evidence before the house of Walsh's guilt, and to shew, that although he had disgraced himself in the eyes of society, his action was not of a nature of which the house could take cognizance.

Mr. Bathurst replied to his objections, by shewing that there was sufficient proof of moral turpitude for which no circumstances of mitigation had been adduced; that the House was not bound by technical rules; and that every one must feel the gross indecorum of such

such a person sitting in that place.

Mr. Abercromby stated, that there were three great classes of cases upon which that house had frequently been called upon to exercise its right of expulsion: 1. cases of contempt of the house itself: 2. breaches of public trust: in both these the house exercised its jurisdiction upon sound and solid principles: 3. when persons had been found guilty and punished for gross offences. In these last cases, the house paid that respect to the sentence of the laws, and to the laws themselves, as to deem such persons unfit to sit in that house. He then endeavoured to shew, that the present case was widely different: that the record of conviction was incomplete, and that if a special verdict had been taken, there would have been no conviction. As to the mere immorality of the act, he thought that principle might be carried to a dangerous extent, and that it would be very difficult to draw the line and determine what sort of breach of trust should render a member liable to expulsion, and what not.

The Attorney General confessed that the subject was attended with a good deal of difficulty. Of the cases of expulsion which had been quoted by different members, that of the directors of the Charitable Corporation came the nearest; and if the house had proceeded upon it, not as a misapplication of the public money, but as an act of gross dishonesty, the act committed by Mr. Walsh was at least equally dishonest.

Several other members spoke on the different sides of the question, which was discussed with much tem-

per and impartiality. The general sense of the house was however clearly for the expulsion of one who had proved himself so unworthy a member, as was manifested by the division, on which Mr. Bankes's motion was carried by 101 against 16, though some very respectable names appeared in the minority.

The gold coin and bank note bill, which had excited so much discussion in the last session of parliament, was again introduced to the notice of the House of Commons, on March 17th, by a motion from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for its continuation, with certain amendments. After a few preliminary observations on the course which he meant to adopt, which was that of proposing that the bill should be read twice before the holidays and printed, and a day be appointed after the recess, in order that gentlemen from Ireland might be present at the discussion of the various provisions, he moved "That leave be granted to bring in a bill to continue and amend an act of the last session of parliament, for making more effectual provision for preventing the current gold coin of the realm from being paid or accepted for a greater value than the current value of such coin; for preventing any note or bill of the governor and company of the Bank of England from being received for any smaller sum than the sum therein specified; and for staying proceeding upon a distress by tender of such notes; and to extend the same to Ireland."

Lord Folkstone rose in this early stage of the business to observe upon the confident manner in which the right hon. gentleman had

had introduced a motion, the object of which was neither more nor less than that of making bank notes a legal tender; and he made some observations on the extension of the bill to Ireland; though Lord Castlereagh had last year particularly objected to it, because bargains in the north of that country being made for payments in gold, it would have the effect of defrauding the creditors.

Lord Castlereagh having made some explanation relative to his opinion as referred to by the noble lord, Mr. Tierney spoke with considerable warmth against the proposed measure, against which, as likely to bring on a most dangerous crisis for the country, he solemnly protested.

The House divided upon the motion, which was carried by 73 against 26, and leave was accordingly given to bring in the bill.

On the motion for the second reading of this bill, March 26, a debate arose, in which several members on both sides partook. The arguments against the measure were chiefly recapitulations of those before employed to show the danger of making, in effect, bank notes a legal tender, and multiplying paper credit beyond all stint and limit. With these were joined the injustice of extending the law to Ireland, in some parts of which leases and contracts of long standing existed for the payment of gold, and the depreciation of paper was advanced to 25 per cent. On the other hand it was contended that greater evils would arise from leaving tenants at the mercy of rapacious landlords. On the whole, it was evident from the views

given of the subject, that difficulties pressed upon it on all sides, and that nothing remained but a choice of evils. The ministers, however, were supported by a large majority, the division on the motion giving ayes 61; noes 16: majority 45.

On April 10th, the question being put that the house do resolve itself into a committee on this bill, Mr. Parnell rose to move as an amendment, that further proceedings be postponed to this day fortnight, for the purpose of appointing a select committee to inquire into the state of the currency in Ireland. He then made a statement of the situation in which this currency was placed; from which he concluded that the only effect of the bill in Ireland would be to take the money out of the pockets of the landlords and other creditors, to put it into that of tenants and debtors. His demand for further inquiry was supported by Sir J. Newport and Mr. Ponsonby, and replied to by Lord Castlereagh and Mr. W. Pole, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The house then dividing on the question for going into a committee, it was carried by 87 against 27.

The motion for bringing up the report, April 17th, was opposed by one for adjournment, which was negatived by 101 to 35; after which the reception of the report was postponed to the 20th. On that day the debate was renewed, and another division took place, in which the bringing up of the report was carried by ayes 138 against noes 29. Lord A. Hamilton then proposed a clause to confine the dividend of profits to the proprietors

prietors of the Bank of England to 10% per cent, during the operation of the bill; his object being to give the bank an interest in the recommencement of payments in specie. It was negatived without a division. Mr. Taylor proposed a clause to compel the bank to employ the surplus of profit above 10% per cent. in the purchase of bullion, which was also negatived; and the same fortune attended Mr. Johnstone's proposed clause to limit the issue of bank-notes.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed the amendment of taking away from the landlord the right of ejectment after a tender of bank-notes in payment of rent by the tenant. This was warmly opposed by Messrs. Horner, Brougham, and others, as depriving the landlord of his only remaining remedy, and making bank-notes, to all intents and purposes, a legal tender. It was defended on the other side, as containing nothing new in principle, and passed without a division. The bill was ordered for a third reading, and it met with no further opposition in the House of Commons.

On the order for the second reading of this bill in the House of Lords, April 28th, a discussion took place, in which the arguments against a compulsory paper currency were recapitulated by the opposers, and were replied to by ministers and their supporters, who contended for the necessity of the proposed measures. No division occurred in its passage through the house, but a strong protest against the third reading, signed by Lords Lauderdale and Rosslyn, was entered on the Journals.

It is unnecessary to observe more on this bill, than that by its amendments it in effect accomplished that purpose of rendering Bank of England notes legal tender, to which the bill of the preceding year had made such an approximation; and that by disallowing any limitation of that company in the issue of its notes, and unrestricted power of coining silver tokens of less than their nominal value, the whole circulating medium of the country is placed in its hands. That in the present state of things such a measure was the wisest policy, may be true; but it must be acknowledged that such a state has never before occurred in English history.

Among the parliamentary discussions of this session, one of the most remarkable related to the different attempts under the Regency, now freed from its restrictions, to form a new or a strengthened administration. There had been made public in the month of February a letter from the Prince Regent to his brother the Duke of York, expressing a wish that at this "new æra" his government might be strengthened by the accession of some of those persons with whom the early habits of his public life had been formed, and desiring that this wish might be communicated to Lords Grey and Grenville; and also the letter of reply from those lords, in which they state the impossibility of their uniting with the present administration, on account of differences of opinion concerning the most important political measures. (See State papers).

On March 19th, Lord Boringdon rose in the House of Lords, for

for the purpose of moving an address to the Prince Regent, beseeching him to form an efficient administration. This motion, his lordship said, entirely originated from himself, and arose from feelings of a purely public nature, and an anxious wish for averting the worst calamity that could befall the empire—that of a separation of the two sister countries. He went on to give a view of the situation of the empire at the commencement of this new æra, with respect both to prosperous and adverse circumstances; and after alluding to the correspondence which had been carried on between the Prince Regent and the two noble lords above-mentioned, according to an authentic, though not official document, he proceeded particularly to notice the decided hostility to the claims of the Irish Catholics declared by the present ministers. He was willing, however, to hope that notwithstanding the refusal of these lords to unite with the present government, upon the ground of the differences they had stated, they still might be the medium of forming an administration upon a broad and liberal basis. He concluded his speech by moving an address to the Prince Regent, in which, after expressions of esteem and attachment, his Royal Highness is humbly told, “that for the attainment of these objects (the honour of the nation abroad, and its tranquillity and happiness at home) it appears to us to be essential that the administration to which his Royal Highness may be graciously pleased to commit the management of his affairs should be so composed as to unite, as

far as possible, the confidence and good will of all classes of his Majesty’s subjects. That in the present state of Ireland it is, in our opinion, impossible that such general confidence and goodwill should be enjoyed by any administration, the characteristic principle of whose domestic policy, as well as the bond of whose connexion in office, is the determination not only not to recommend, but to resist, a fair and dispassionate consideration of those civil disabilities under which his Majesty’s Roman-catholic subjects in that part of the united kingdom still labour, and of which they complain as most grievous and oppressive. That we therefore humbly express our anxious hope that his Royal Highness may yet be enabled to form an administration, which, by conciliating the affections of all descriptions of the community, may most effectually call forth the entire resources of the united kingdom, and may afford to his Royal Highness additional means of conducting to a successful termination a war in which are involved the safety, honour, and prosperity of this country.”

Viscount Grimstone rising to express his dissent from the motion, said that it appeared to him that in the noble Lord’s speech some degree of blame was imputed to the Prince Regent for the manner in which he had conducted himself. He was proceeding, when he was called to order for making a personal allusion to the Regent in a debate. This occasioned a warm debate on the point of order; which being terminated, Lord Grimstone, after mentioning the

the successes which had attended the present administration, moved an amendment on the motion, which was, in effect, an omission of all its substance, and the substitution of an expression of perfect satisfaction with the conduct of affairs since the commencement of the regency.

Lord Darnley rising to speak against the amendment was interrupted on the ground of irregularity in alluding to a document, the letters, not properly before the house; and a debate arose on this point of order, which terminated in Lord Darnley's asserting his right to consider them as authentic. His lordship then proceeded, and plainly alluded to certain secret advisers who had influenced the Regent to continue the same ministers who had served his father, and whose continuance implied destruction to the hopes of the catholics, and consequently, destruction to the country.

He was followed by several other lords, in whose speeches the catholic question was the leading topic; but the most interesting was that of Lord Grey, in which he stated the points which had induced himself and Lord Grenville to decline an union with the present ministers. He began with acknowledging that the motion appeared to him substantially intended to produce a change in the administration. Of this administration it might be said that it was formed on the express principle of resistance to the catholic claims. This was the principle loudly proclaimed by the person at the head of it, from the moment when he quitted the bar to take a share in political life, up to the present

instant; and where he led, the rest were obliged to follow. The noble lord then dwelt at some length on this topic, and showed how necessary ultimate concessions to the catholics had been considered by the greatest political characters. He would not state what the opinion of the Prince Regent on this head might be at the present moment, having only that of his responsible advisers to look to; but he could not help saying that a very general hope was entertained by the catholics that his Royal Highness was favourable to their claims, and that a new æra would by the course of nature arrive, when bigotry and oppression should no longer oppose them. Though it was impossible for his noble friend and himself to unite with men who differed with them in so fundamental a point, did it follow that there were no others with whom they could coalesce? or if both parties were put out of the question, were there not others to form an administration without them? If the address should be carried, and the Regent could find others of whom he might form a cabinet, holding the same opinions on the catholic question with himself, they should have his warm support.

Adverting to the questions at issue between this country and America, his lordship said, that if it was imputed to him that he was disposed to give up one single right, or to abandon any principle connected with our essential maritime interests, the imputation was most false and groundless. He would go as far in support of those interests as any man, although he should still deem it necessary to weigh the true value of those disputed

puted interests, and to guard against making a sacrifice disproportionate to the object to be attained. He could not lose sight of the principle so well expressed by Mr. Burke, "as we ought never to go to war for a profitable wrong, so we ought never to go to war for an unprofitable right." Upon the subject of the state of the circulation, his wish was to revert as much as possible to true principles, and keep the circulating medium within due bounds, but it did not follow that he held it to be indispensable that the bank should immediately resume cash payments. He avowed, however, that an impassable line of separation existed between him and the present ministry with respect to the design of making bank-notes a legal tender. With respect to the policy advisable in the affairs of the peninsula, he certainly was not prepared to say that it was expedient immediately to recall our troops, but he did not wish that we should proceed on that expensive scale of warfare without having some military authority as to the probable result. On this subject he dwelt at some length, for the purpose of shewing that the prospects in that quarter did not encourage any sanguine hopes. He concluded with what appeared to him the most momentous of all the objections against the present system of government, which was, the existence of an unseen and separate influence behind the throne. He said it was his rooted and unalterable principle not to accept of office without coming to an understanding with parliament for the abolition of this destructive influence.

Lord Mulgrave denied the existence of the secret influence alluded to, and avowed the hostility of the ministers to the catholic claims. Lord Moira, asserting that he came to the House undetermined how to vote, said that he was fixed by what had fallen from the last noble lord; for that, if nothing else but the removal of the present ministers could give the Roman catholics of Ireland any prospect of obtaining a redress of their grievances, such a change ought to be rapturously hailed by the whole country.

The House then divided upon the amendment: Contents, present, 90; proxies, 75; total, 165. Non-contents, present, 43; proxies, 29; total, 72. Majority for the amendment, 93. The original question was then put, and negatived without a division.

The parliamentary proceedings with respect to subsequent negotiations for changes in the administration will come under consideration in the order of time.

On March 20th, a message was sent to both Houses from the Prince Regent, respecting a provision for the Princesses. It stated, that pursuant to powers vested in his Majesty, the king, by letters patent bearing date the 2d of Feb. 1802, had been pleased to grant to their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Augusta-Sophia, Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia, and Amelia, an annuity of 30,000*l.* to take effect from the demise of his Majesty; and his Royal Highness being desirous to provide for their establishment by an immediate grant, recommended the subject to the consideration of parliament.

On March 23d, the message was taken

taken into consideration in the House of Commons, the Chancellor of the Exchequer moving that the House should go into a committee of supply for the purpose.

Mr. Creevey rose and objected to the Speaker's leaving the chair, wishing that the discussion should be deferred to some future day; and after some observations respecting the falling off of the consolidated fund, from which the required provision was intended to be paid, and on the late large sum granted to the Regent, from which he thought the additional charge might be defrayed; he concluded by moving the amendment of substituting "this day month," to the word "now."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply, first shewed the groundlessness of the hon. gentleman's apprehensions concerning the consolidated fund; and then entered into some statements to prove that it was a mistake to suppose that there was a large disposable fund in the hands of the Prince, since he had taken upon himself the payment of the debts of the Princess of Wales, to the amount of 49,000*l.*, and so large a part of his income as 70,000*l.* had been given to a commission under the seal of the duchy of Lancaster, for the liquidation of those debts which had been brought before the House.

Mr. Whitbread concurred in the propriety of postponing the committee, on account of the contradictory statements made by gentlemen on both sides of the House from the very same papers, which proved that a further investigation was necessary. He, for one, had understood that the Princesses were

to live with the queen, and that it was on this account that the addition of 10,000*l.* had been made to her income, for it was difficult to imagine on what other account it could have been made. With respect to the payment of the Princess of Wales's debts by the Prince, he thought it one of the most complete juggles that was ever heard of, for a person to undertake to pay the debts of another to save the expence to the people, when he came to get his own debts paid by that same people.

The motion for the amendment being put, and negatived without a division, the original question was carried, and the House resolved itself into a committee accordingly. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then made a statement of the proposed grant. By the acts which had enabled his Majesty to grant an annuity to the princesses in case of his demise, 30,000*l.* was to be divided among the Princesses then living; if their number should fall to three, each was to have 10,000*l.*; if to two, 20,000*l.* was to be divided between them; and if only one remained, 12,000*l.* was to be allotted to her. The melancholy circumstance which had taken place in the Royal Family rendered it necessary that the condition of the Princesses should be considered as if the demise of the crown had actually occurred; and though they might still form a part of the domestic establishment at Windsor, he thought it of importance that they should be enabled to form separate establishments if they chose it. He would therefore propose, that to each of the four Princesses there should be granted the

the sum of 9,000*l.* per annum, exclusive of 4,000*l.* from the civil list: at the death of one of them, the survivors to have 10,000*l.* each; and the same to continue when there should be two survivors only; the sole survivor of the whole to receive 12,000*l.* He concluded with moving an annuity of 36,000*l.* to be granted to the King for the purpose above-mentioned.

Mr. Tierney did not think the sum stated too much for separate establishments for the Princesses, but he did not see why it should be taken for granted that they would desire to cease forming one family as at present, in which case, the sum would be greater than necessary. His greatest objection, however, to the present vote, was the piece-meal way in which the additions to the civil list had been made, and which had imperceptibly arrived at an extent, which he stated, including the sum now demanded, to be of the enormous amount of 1,668,000*l.* He thought that the 36,000*l.* proposed might be saved from the civil list by a fundamental inquiry into its several branches of expenditure, which could not, however, be effectually made while the right hon. gentleman told them that they might examine accounts, but should not examine persons. He had another observation to make, which was with respect to the provision for the Princess of Wales, which was comparatively inadequate to her station. She was the wife of the Regent, and as much the representative of the queen, as the Regent was of his Majesty. He then alluded to the separation between the high parties in question,

and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's intimate knowledge of the circumstances, as having been her Royal Highness's counsel and champion in the investigation which had been so much talked of.

This hint from the hon. gentleman seemed to be a signal for the members in opposition to take up the cause of the Princess of Wales, which became the principal topic of the remaining debate. In the course of it every provocation was given to Mr. Perceval to induce him to open on a subject with which he was supposed to be so well acquainted, but nothing more was obtained from him than the following declaration,—That neither in his capacity of counsellor to her Royal Highness, nor in any other character whatever, had he any charge against her Royal Highness, or the means of bringing forward any charge, and that he never meant to cast the slightest reflection upon her. As to this discussion, he had no delegated authority; no commands to propose an additional grant for the Princess of Wales. Nevertheless, if he could collect that it was the sense of parliament that an additional provision should be made, he had no doubt that he should shortly be fully authorized to recommend it.

Such, however, was probably by no means the wish of the gentlemen in opposition, as it would have been too inconsistent with their professed unwillingness to lay fresh burdens on the people. After more conversation on the subject, the resolution was put, and agreed to without a division.

On the question for the third reading of the bill formed upon this resolution, April 17th, Mr. Tierney

Tierney rose to state his objections. He could not easily comprehend why the present act was to take place immediately, when the former was not intended to take place till the king's demise. It was not to be supposed that the amiable Princesses would abandon their Royal parents in their affliction to spend 36,000*l.* a year under another roof. He would put the question directly to the right hon. gentleman, were the Princesses to have an establishment independent of the Queen? If so, what was to be done with the saving that must in that case arise out of the civil list as to the general expenditure of the Queen's household? He also objected to the fund upon which these annuities were charged, which was not the hereditary revenue of the crown, but the consolidated fund, thereby giving no chance of a relief from this pressure on the public. The different items of the joint establishment for the Queen and her daughters amounted to 184,000*l.* a year, and was not this sufficient in such times? After some other observations on the household establishment, which he denominated an ingenious mode of providing for those who had the good fortune to be in favour with the minister, he moved the amendment, instead of dating the bill from Feb. 18th last, to limit its taking effect to the king's demise.

The Chancellor of the Exche-

quer made a reply to only a part of the objections of the last speaker, because many of his arguments were wholly inapplicable to the question before the House. With respect to that of the fund upon which the sum was to be charged, he thought the hon. gentleman could scarcely be serious, since it was notorious that the hereditary revenues of the crown had merged in the consolidated fund. He did not believe that the princesses had any intention of setting up a separate establishment, but it was no reason that they should be compelled to a residence at Windsor during the rest of their lives.

Several members spoke in opposition to the bill; and the situation of the Princess of Wales was again brought into the debate. In return to some questions on the subject put by Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Secretary Ryder observed, that if he knew any thing of the feelings of the public on this topic, there was no part of the conduct of the hon. gentlemen opposite which had created more disgust and disapprobation than the manner in which they had introduced this matter to the House.

A division took place on Mr. Tierney's amendment, ayes, 35, noes, 101. The original clause was then agreed to, and the bill was passed. It met with no opposition in the House of Lords.

CHAPTER VI.

Motion on the State of the Nation—Marquis of Lansdowne's Motion on the Orders in Council—Mr. Banks's Motion for a Bill for abolishing Sinecure Offices.

ON February 27, Sir Thomas Turton introduced in the House of Commons one of those motions on the state of the nation which are common at the beginning of a session, but have generally no other effect than to give large scope to the members on each side for attack and defence of the measures adopted by government. The honourable baronet in his speech took a very extended view of the state of public affairs, foreign and domestic, both retrospective and present, from which he inferred much past impolicy in the plans of ministers, and melancholy prospects from persevering in the same system. It is unnecessary here to repeat what has already constituted the narrative of history, or will be more fully shown in the parliamentary proceedings. He concluded by moving, "That this house will resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, to take into consideration the state of the nation."

He was seconded by Mr. Tighe, who enlarged upon some of the topics introduced by the honourable mover, and said in the conclusion, that if at such a crisis ministers refused the committee, it must be said that they had brought the

country into such a situation, that they were afraid of looking on the evil, and incapable of supplying a remedy.

Mr. Robinson rose to oppose the motion. He said that such an inquiry as the house was now called to enter upon, embraced not only questions which had been the subject of past, but many that were to form that of future discussions, of which he gave instances. He proceeded to justify the war policy pursued by the ministers, and recommended perseverance in the contest.

Mr. Lamb supported the motion, and alluded to the loss the ministry had sustained by the secession of the Marquis of Wellesley, which he considered as rather aggravated by the accession of Lord Castlereagh.

Mr. M. Montague, in a speech which seemed to excite much diversion in the house, levelled many sarcasms against the opposition, and alluded personally to the honourable member for Bedford. This notice called up Mr. Whitbread, who retorted by an animated attack upon the administration, and a defence of Lords Grey and Grenville for refusing to coalesce with

them. The debate thenceforth became nothing more than a contest between the ministers and the oppositionists, in which the political points at issue between them were recapitulated; but although several of the principal speakers took their share in it, there can be no advantage in occupying more of our pages with topics to which so much space has already been devoted. The house at length came to a division, in which there appeared for the motion 136, against it 209; majority 73.

The subject of the Orders in Council, which constituted so important a part of the negotiations between this country and the United States of America during the last year, appears prominent in the parliamentary discussions of the present year; and although their importance has unfortunately been diminished by the event—for the Americans decided the question by arms, whilst our senates were debating it—they cannot be passed over in a relation of the principal occurrences in parliamentary history.

The House of Lords having been summoned on February 28, in consequence of a motion of the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the order of the day being read, the marquis rose to call the attention of their lordships to the Orders in Council, and to the system of policy which had resulted from those orders, so injurious to the manufacturing and commercial interests of the country, and to the welfare of the state. He specified the particular orders which he meant to consider, to be those issued in November 1807, prohibiting the

trade to France and the countries dependent upon her, at the same time insisting on American vessels coming first to our ports and paying a tax there; and also to the order of April 1809, partly revoking the former orders, by opening the trade with the north of Europe. He then took a view of the effects of these orders as to their operation on the enemy; their operation on the neutral; their influence on the commerce and internal resources of this country; and their effects on its maritime policy. Under these heads he made a number of observations which are incapable of abridgment, as they all referred to particular facts. One striking remark of a general nature we shall however transcribe. If (said the noble speaker) at the time of the revolution in America, any one could have foreseen that the whole commerce of continental Europe would have fallen under the iron grasp and dominion of France, they would have looked to the establishment of an independent state on the other side of the Atlantic, out of the reach of French power to become the carrier of our commerce, and purchaser of our manufactures, as the greatest boon that could have been given us. Such an event had occurred as if providentially; yet this great and inestimable advantage had been destroyed by the Orders in Council. His lordship then adverted to the abuses of the system of licences, the number of which had increased from 4,000 to 16,000 in the year; and to the system of simulation and dissimulation by which our commerce was now carried on, and which had thrown discredit on the

the decisions of our prize courts. He finally contended, that every plea on which the Orders of Council had been founded was proved erroneous by the experience of four years; and he concluded by moving "For the appointment of a select committee to take into consideration the present state of the commerce and manufactures of the country, particularly with reference to the effects of the Orders in Council, and the licence trade."

Earl Bathurst, in reply, went through with great clearness all the particulars which could be adduced in refutation of the arguments of the noble mover, and endeavoured to prove the great advantages which had arisen from the system adopted by government. He also referred to the origin of this system, which he traced to the administration of which the opposition was now composed. He assigned other causes for the late commercial embarrassments, and affirmed that the clouds were now dissipating, and favourable prospects were opening; whence he could not accede to the proposition submitted to the house.

Lord Holland, in replying to the last speaker, thought that it would be an acceptable thing to the house to bring back their attention to the actual motion under consideration, which was, the appointment of a committee of inquiry; and he argued that the more doubt there was, which of the many orders in council had produced the mischiefs complained of, the greater was the necessity of such an inquiry, that it might be repealed. With respect to the topic introduced by the noble earl

relative to the original authors of these orders, he said it was disgraceful to the legislature, and disgusting to the people, that measures which affected the best interests of the country should be discussed, not upon their own merits, but as questions of consistency or inconsistency on the part of this or that administration.

After several other lords had spoken on the subject, the house divided; for the motion 34, proxies 37, total 71; against it 66, proxies 69, total 135: majority 64.

On March 3, Mr. Brougham, in the House of Commons, made a similar motion with that of the Marquis of Lansdowne, for the appointment of a committee upon the Orders of Council. Of his long and elaborate speech to prove the impolicy and mischievous effects of these orders, and of the arguments used by the other speakers on both sides, it is impossible in an abstract to give any adequate idea; even on perusing them at length, the mind is distracted by reasoning opposed to reasoning, and fact to fact. The time, however, was not yet come in which the question could be regarded apart from the consideration of the support it was to receive. The ministers were still resolved to maintain their system, and of course, the votes under their influence were given against the motion. It was, however, truly stated by the mover, in his reply, that the votes of this night were to determine the point of peace or war with America. The proportion of members in favour of the proposed inquiry was greater in the House of Commons than in the

House of Lords. On the division, there appeared, for Mr. Brougham's motion 144, against it 216; majority 72.

The bill which had been carried respecting offices in reversion, though laudable in its principle, was evidently incapable of doing much towards the relief of the national burdens; its author, therefore, Mr. Banks, with a view of striking a more effectual blow against the waste of public money, rose in the House of Commons on March 24, and moved the reading of the three first resolutions of the committee relative to public expenditure in May 1810. Their substance was to recommend the abolition of all offices which have revenue without employment, and the regulation of those which have revenue extremely disproportionate to employment (with the exception of those about the person of his Majesty and the royal family), and to reduce all effective offices, the duties of which are discharged by deputy, to the salary and emoluments actually received for executing the business of those offices. These resolutions being read, the honourable member said, that there was nothing to which the country looked with more pleasure than to the salutary principles of regulation which ought to be applied to sinecure offices. He guarded, however, against the indulgence of too high expectations of relief from the burdens incurred during war from such a measure, or, indeed, of any immediate economical effect of the motion he meant to propose; but if the principle were once established, it could not fail of a sure though

slow effect. After some further observations, he concluded by moving, "That leave be given to bring in a bill for abolishing and regulating sinecures and offices executed by deputy, and for providing other means for recompensing the faithful discharge of high or effective civil offices, and for other economical purposes."

Leave was accordingly given; and Mr. Banks, Mr. Wilberforce, and Mr. I. W. Ward, were ordered to prepare the same.

The bill thus framed did not come to a discussion till May 4, when, upon the order of the day for taking into consideration the report of the bill, Mr. W. Dundas rose, and objected to it as violating the articles of union with Scotland. He said, that the people of Scotland had stipulated at the union that their chief offices of state should be preserved, and he asked upon what ground it was that the very first offices of that country, in defiance of solemn treaty and national faith, were to be abolished?

The Lord Advocate of Scotland followed on the same side. He instanced particularly as an infringement of a stipulated right, the abolition of the office of keeper of the great seal of Scotland. The fact being denied by Mr. Banks, he said the bill abolished the emolument of the office; and what remained of the office after the emolument? This was what induced responsible persons to undertake it; and the want of responsibility was what he attributed to the enactments of this bill. It gave up a place of high trust to obscure individuals who should act as deputies,

puties, and by it the property of Scotland was therefore put into unsafe hands. He made other objections to the bill; and said, that if it should pass into a law, it would cause the greatest confusion in Scotland, and strike the whole people with immeasurable astonishment.

Mr. Lyttelton made some sarcastic observations on the attachment to emolument avowed by the last speaker, and said that he was fully convinced that the true reason why the influence of the aristocracy was so debased, was, because these places had been continued. He gave his opinion that there was never a fitter time for wresting this power of augmenting influence from the hands of the crown, when it was known that there prevailed in the court a base system of unprincipled favouritism—when it was notorious that the Regent was surrounded and hemmed in with minions, among whom, if there was a man of note or talent, there certainly was not one of any character.

Mr. Courtenay attempted to shew that the proposed bill, instead of being a measure of economy, would be one of profuseness, and would tend to increase the improper influence of the crown. He objected to the whole principle upon which the pensions, which were to be substituted for the sinecures, were grounded. Under the bill, they would be given to those who ought not to have them, and withholden from those on whom they ought to be conferred. There would be no other test of merit in bestowing rewards, than having possessed a place. He observed,

also, that it was contrary to all parliamentary practice to interfere with offices appertaining to the hereditary revenue of the crown, without the consent of the crown previously signified.

Lord A. Hamilton urged in support of the bill, the disappointment which would be felt by the people at large, if, after the expectations held out to them, some measure of the kind were not adopted.

Mr. Bastard took the same ground, and dwelt upon the grievous burdens under which almost all classes were now suffering. He could have wished that every separate office had been put to the vote, and a bill prepared conformably to that decision. It was at least incumbent on those who talked of the necessity of remuneration, to shew the reality of the service. He was convinced it would be difficult to point out ten in the whole list that partook of this character. The public money was too often given, rather as a consideration for accepting office, than for the services performed in it.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that he felt himself bound to state his objections to the bill, both in its details and principle. In considering the former, he mentioned several instances in which its provisions were either inconsistent or unjust. With respect to the principle, his opinion still was that it was perfectly wrong and mistaken. It went to say that the crown should not have the power of securing for its service men whom it might judge to be the most capable, if they happened not to be in a situation to resign all other pursuits in order to enter into

into the public service. He put this case strongly, and not without a personal allusion. He then adverted to the influence of the crown, and appealed to the house whether it was too great; referring to the division upon Colonel M'Mahon's appointment: and desired them to consider whether the bill would not tend to a diminution of influence hazardous to the monarchy.

Mr. Banks thought it somewhat extraordinary, and contrary to parliamentary usage, to suffer the bill to be read a second time, and pass the committee, without observations, and then come forward in this stage to condemn not only its principle, but those details which might have been altered in the committee. He then made replies to some of the particular objections which had been advanced; and desired that when the offices proposed to be abolished, and their responsibility were spoken of, it should be recollected that they were rather *quasi* offices with *quasi* responsibility, neither of which appeared to him too great to be confined to such men as would usually be appointed deputies. As to the power of the crown, he said it was impossible to look at the immense expenditure of the country, with all the establishments and patronage connected with it, without being convinced that dependence on the crown was extended to all parts to a degree quite unexampled in former times. It was also no light consideration that some of the greatest commercial and corporate bodies were in the habit of looking up to the ministers of the crown.

Mr. Canning made one of those balanced, indecisive speeches which had lately distinguished his manner of debate, but declared that he should support the bill, because he approved its principle.

That the general sense of the house was decidedly in its favour, was proved by the division, on which the numbers were,—for the motion 134, against it 123; majority 11.

The bill was then recommitted, when various amendments were proposed, some of which were carried, and others rejected. The report was then received, and the bill was ordered for a third reading. This took place on June 15th, when various objections were started against the bill, which, however, was read without a division. Mr. Banks then moved the additional clause, "Provided always, that nothing in this bill should be prejudicial to the rights and interests of those who are now chief justices;" which was agreed to. Various clauses of amendment were then put, most of which were rejected. A motion for omitting that clause in the bill which limited the pension list of Ireland to 40,000*l.* a year produced a division; for the motion 59, against it 60. The bill afterwards passed the house without further opposition.

The bill did not arrive to its second reading in the House of Lords till July 3. On that occasion the Lord Chancellor spoke of its provisions with great contempt, and said that such a bill never met the eye of a lawyer ever since the establishment of law. He pointed out some of its most objectionable parts, and concluded with the motion,

tion, that it be read a second time that day three months. Some of the lords in its favour acknowledged that there were imperfections in it, but contended that no argument had been advanced against its principle, and that it might be

amended in its future stages. On a division, however, the Chancellor's motion was carried by 35 votes against 8; and thus the bill was lost, and with it, all the hopes of alleviation of the public burdens which it might have raised.

CHAPTER VII.

Debate on Colonel M'Mahon's Appointment of Private Secretary to the Prince Regent—Debate on the Barrack Estimates—Motion respecting Military Punishments.

AFTER Colonel M'Mahon had been deprived of his place of pay-master of widows' pensions, he was remunerated by the appointment of keeper of the privy purse and private secretary to the Prince Regent. This circumstance was noticed in the House of Commons on March 23, by the Hon. J. W. Ward, who desired to be informed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer what salary was attached to these places, and what were their duties, as he did not know till now that such a situation existed. The right honourable gentleman, in reply, said, that he presumed the honourable member was not ignorant that Colonel Taylor had held the same offices under the King, and the same salary which he received was continued to Colonel M'Mahon; that the duties were various and important, although the offices would carry with them no official sanction, the home secretary of state being still the organ for receiving and communicating the pleasure of the Regent. Mr. Whitbread then inquired whether before the nomination of Colonel Taylor as private secretary to the King, in consequence of his infirmity of sight, any such place had existed; and also, whether Col. M'Mahon was to be paid out of the same fund that Col. Taylor

had been. The Chancellor of the Exchequer admitted that no private secretary to the King had been appointed before this defect of sight; and upon being asked by Mr. Ward if he had any objection to name the adviser of the present appointment, he said that he had not the least difficulty in mentioning that it was himself.

On the 14th of April, Mr. C. W. Wynn rose in the house, pursuant to notice, to move for the production of the appointment of Colonel M'Mahon to the new office of private secretary to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent. He began with expressing his surprise at the intimation he had received that his motion was to be resisted, for surely the creation of a new office required as much as any thing to be submitted to the consideration of the House of Commons. With respect to the appointment of Col. Taylor, he denied that it formed any precedent for the present case, since it was only justified by the obvious necessity of the circumstances, of which nothing similar now existed. He alluded to former sovereigns who had dispatched a great variety of business without such an assistant, and especially the present King, who had paid a rigid attention to public

public affairs till the period of his unfortunate illness. After several observations to shew that the appointment in question was not necessary, the honourable member went on to say, that it was a most unconstitutional proceeding to allow the secrets of the council to pass through a third person, and he, perhaps, no counsellor. It might perhaps be said that Colonel M'Mahon was a privy counsellor: so much the worse! By his secretary's oath he would be bound faithfully to read communications to his Royal Highness, and faithfully to write what he should command: but in his character of privy counsellor he was bound by oath to give his advice upon what he read. Was it fitting that the cabinet ministers should have their advice to their sovereign subject to the revision of his private secretary? If, indeed, it were acknowledged to be consistent with the constitution to have both an interior and an exterior cabinet, he could not understand why there should be a fourth secretary to carry the communications from one to the other. He then made some remarks on the improper time in which this appointment had been given, when the burdens and distresses of the country were universally felt; and said that it would appear to the public like a determination to create a place in order to compensate Colonel M'Mahon for that of which the sense of parliament had deprived him. He concluded by moving, "That there be laid before the house a copy of any instrument by which the right honourable John M'Mahon has been appointed private secretary to the Prince Regent in the name and on

the behalf of his Majesty. Also for a copy of any minute of the board of treasury thereon, directing the payment of the salary attached to the same."

Lord Castlereagh said, that the honourable gentleman had raised this question to a degree of importance which could in no view belong to it. He denied that there was any thing in the appointment which detracted in the slightest degree from the responsibility of the ministers of the crown. The nature of the office was precisely the same as that of any other private secretary in any other office of state, differing only in the rank of the personage under whom it was held, and there was no foundation for representing it as that of a fourth secretary of state. He asked whether it were possible for the sovereign of this country to go on, overwhelmed as he must be by the public documents that were heaped upon him, and scarcely able to disengage his person from the accumulating pile by which he was surrounded? He thought the necessity of the appointment apparent, and that there were no grounds for censuring it; wherefore he should oppose the production of the paper, which was nothing more than a grant of 2,000*l.* a year as a salary.

Mr. Elliot observed, that there was a marked difference between the appointment of Colonel Taylor and Colonel M'Mahon; for that in the former instance his Majesty had never called for the assistance of a private secretary till he was obliged to it by his infirmities, whereas the Regent was happily free from any thing of the kind. If merely the arrangement of papers

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in boxes was to be the duty of a private secretary, it could not be requisite that he should be a privy counsellor, or have a salary of 2,000*l.* a year. But, in fact, the place of Colonel M'Mahon was of much greater consequence: and the honourable gentleman affirmed, that he was really a sworn adviser of the crown, and in the eye of the law was responsible for the contents of every paper laid before the regent. The office was either a public official one, or it was not: if the first, let the person who held it be appointed a secretary of state; if the latter, let him not be a privy counsellor with such a salary.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed, that the question could be considered only in two points of view, either as the office was illegal, or as it was inexpedient. As to the first, was it contended, that the crown had no power to create a new office? He would refer to the statute book for proof that such power was constitutional. Further, he would deny that this was a new one, as that of Colonel Taylor was exactly similar. It had been asserted that the private secretary of the Regent was the organ of his pleasure to all his subjects; but if it were meant by that phrase as signifying his approbation or disapprobation of any state act, it was not true that Colonel M'Mahon was competent to communicate the pleasure of the Regent in any way that could authorize any subject in the land to attend to it. This was no state office, but simply an appointment to relieve the bodily and manual labour which the prodigious influx of public business attached to the royal functions. The right honour-

able gentleman, to shew the expediency of the appointment, then entered into some particulars of the vast mass of business which came before the Regent, and which afforded abundant occupation for such an officer to alleviate his labour; and he drew a comparison between the condition of his Majesty, inured from early youth to habits of diligence, and the routine of government, and that of the Prince Regent, who came to the task at a so much later period of life. He concluded with some sarcasm on the affected importance attached to the subject.

Mr. Ponsonby asked what was to be inferred from the argument of the necessity of the appointment? Why, that it was to be a perpetual, a permanent office. Every future sovereign might claim the same privilege, if the precedent were established. He would then beg the house to look a little to the future. We might have a monarch whose debilitated frame would render assistance of that kind dangerous, or one whose love of indolence and abhorrence of public duty would equally dispose him to employ it. Would that private secretary have no influence on the government under such circumstances? Was it not likely that the sovereign would sometimes lean upon his opinions and suggestions? It was not in the nature of things but that such an officer must be a powerful instrument in the administration. It became, therefore, the duty of parliament rigidly to inquire into the nature and duties of such a post.

Several other gentlemen followed on each side, some supporting the appointment on account of its utility,

lity, others persisting to consider it as merely a pretext for obtaining an additional salary for a favourite servant. The house at length divided, for the motion, 100; against it, 176.

Although the ministry were thus victorious in the house, they were doubtless sensible that the idea of a new burden imposed upon the country, under circumstances of such dubious propriety, excited much public discontent. They therefore took the hint of one of their friends (Mr. Wilberforce), who, in defending the appointment, had expressed a wish that the salary of the new secretary should have been paid out of the Regent's privy purse; and this alteration was afterwards announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

One of the debates in which the influence of the crown in impeding the due limitation of the public expenditure appeared to give the most general offence, was that on the barrack estimates. On April 13, Mr. Wharton moved, in the committee of supply, "that a sum not exceeding 554,441*l.* be granted for the expence of the barrack department for the current year."

Mr. Freemantle said, he saw many things in those estimates which required a great deal of explanation; and he particularly instanced a barrack for the second regiment of life guards to be built in what was called the Regent's Park, at the expense of 138,000*l.*; barracks at Liverpool, estimated at 82,000*l.*; at Bristol, at 60,000*l.*; and a new stable at Brighton, at 26,000*l.*

Mr. Wharton, in explanation,

stated, that the term of the rented barracks of the life guards being expired, if they were to be kept in barracks at all, it was necessary that they should be built; and he gave reasons for the construction of the others.

Mr. Huskisson could not be satisfied with this explanation. The expense of the barracks, for the life guards, he said, would be found, on calculation, to amount to nearly 450*l.* for each horse, an enormous sum, amounting, according to the interest usually allowed for money laid out in building, to 40*l.* a year for the lodging of each trooper and his horse. He was afraid that in this new building there would be some attempt at splendor and awkward magnificence, and that it would be something between a palace and a stable. At Liverpool he thought such expense was unnecessary, as many warehouses might now be got which would make good temporary barracks. This was a time in which every expense that could be spared, ought to be so; and he thought the reasons for postponing those buildings were fully as strong now as when he was in the treasury.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer endeavoured to shew the necessity of these expenditures; and the debate then took a personal turn, with considerable acrimony, till it was closed by a division on an amendment proposed by Mr. Huskisson, that the grant should be reduced to 400,000*l.* The numbers were, for the amendment, 40; against it, 88.

The report of the committee of supply being brought up and read on the 14th, Mr. Freemantle again objected to the extravagance of the barrack

barrack estimates, and after some conversation it was agreed that the articles which related to it should be deferred to that day se'nnight.

The further consideration of the barracks did not, however, take place till May 1, when Mr. Freemantle renewed his objections to the estimates. He began with those at Liverpool, where it appeared that a purchase had been made of thirty acres of ground, at the expense of 27,000*l.* situated at St. Domingo, near that town, a favourite spot for the erection of villas by the inhabitants, and on which many buildings actually stood. The people of Liverpool had petitioned against the choice of that place, and others might be had equally eligible for the purpose, at a cheaper rate. The most serious objections, however, lay against the proposed barracks in Mary-le-bone Park, where 133,500*l.* was to be expended for the lodgment of 450 cavalry; besides which, there were artillery barracks, magazines, and ordnance stores, in contemplation. It was a most serious consideration, whether they would give government the power to raise a military depôt in such a city as London; a sort of prætorian camp that could not but be grating to the feelings of the people, and might eventually be dangerous to their liberties. The honourable gentleman then entered into some particulars of the expense, which he shewed to be enormous, and far beyond all former estimates. He concluded with moving the substitution of 437,000*l.* for the barrack estimates, instead of 524,000*l.*

Several other members spoke against the extravagance of the

barrack system, and the unnecessary multiplication of these erections. One member hinted that the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself lamented this waste of the public money, but that he had not the power of preventing it, and must conform to the wishes in a higher quarter. Another alluded to what was certainly the general opinion, that the barracks at Mary-le-bone were intended as ornaments of the Regent's Park. While the house appeared unfavourable to these schemes, Sir Francis Burdett rose, and spoke with great severity on the conduct of ministers, as intending to establish a military despotism in the country; on the *murders* which they had authorised upon the people by means of the soldiers, and on the unconstitutional employment of military force in quelling riots. This language gave the Chancellor of the Exchequer the advantage, in his answer, of dilating upon the dangerous nature of such doctrines, and seemed to make a strong impression in some parts of the house. The division, however, sufficiently proved the unpopularity of the plans brought forward, by the comparative smallness of the ministerial majority. The numbers were, for the amendment, 112; against it, 134: majority, 22.

The effect of this public discussion was manifested when the new Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward his budget. He informed the house that an additional vote of 90,000*l.* for the barrack department had been agreed to, but that the treasury had determined to strike off that sum; which diminution proceeded from a resolution to postpone the execution

cution of the projected barracks at Mary-le-bone Park, Bristol, and Liverpool.

The subject of the corporal punishments inflicted in the army had at different times been introduced into parliament, and one effect of these discussions had appeared in a clause of the Mutiny act passed in the last year, giving a power to courts martial to commute the punishment of flogging for that of temporary imprisonment. There were members, however, who thought that the system of punishment adopted in the British army required a further reformation; and on April 15, the honourable Mr. Bennet rose, in the House of Commons, according to notice, to make a motion on the subject. After some general observations on the ignominy and cruelty attending the practice which he had in view, he moved, "That there be laid before the house a return of the number of corporal punishments inflicted in the army, in the militia, and in the local militia, during the last seven years up to January, 1812, specifying the offences, where committed, and the number of lashes inflicted respectively."

Mr. Manners Sutton said, if the returns were desired for the purposes of examining whether there were any cases of abuse, he thought it scarcely a fair proceeding, and that the previous production of such cases alone should induce the house to consent to the motion. There was much variety of opinion on the subject, even in the army, and he believed as much difference would be found upon it among the men in the ranks, as among the officers. His chief ob-

jection to the revival of this discussion arose from its tendency to unsettle the minds of the military, and lead them to believe that there must be grievances, though to them unknown, which caused the subject to be so often agitated. He gave great praise to the illustrious commander-in-chief, who had laboured incessantly to bring the discipline of the army to perfection, and as speedily and generally as possible to do away corporal punishment.

Mr. Abercromby and Mr. W. Smith both spoke in favour of the motion.

Sir F. Burdett said, that he had expected that the right honourable and learned gentleman would have produced more cogent reasons for opposing the motion. In speaking of the necessity of producing some cases for its foundation, he seemed to have forgotten that many such had already been laid before the house. The honourable baronet then referred to a number of instances which had been made public, of the abuse and cruelty of this mode of punishment, all of which went to establish one conclusion, that it was inhuman, and had been often inhumanly exercised. It was a system unworthy of the English nation, and the English army, and a system which he believed would not be allowed in any other country. Sir F. B. dwelt with much energy upon these ideas, and from the advantage to be derived from complying with the motion, as a means towards effecting the total abolition of this punishment.

Mr. W. Wynn said, he would vote for the motion; for though he was not prepared to agree to the total abolition of corporal punishment, he thought that the frequency

frequency of it might and ought to be much diminished.

Mr. Wilberforce said, it was impossible to avoid being in some measure carried away by the honourable baronet's statements, at the same time he thought there should be great caution used before any important alteration was introduced into our military system. Improvements had been made, and others might be suggested; but he felt a dread of the army looking up either to the House of Commons, or to any individual member of it, for redress of their complaints. He should be glad to get the information required, but not in the way proposed.

Sir Samuel Romilly desired to recall the attention of the house to the question really before them, which was not for the abolition of corporal punishments, but for the production of certain papers relative to military punishments. In resisting the production of such papers, gentlemen on the other side did more mischief to the cause they wished to support, than could accrue from any returns, how great soever in number or extent, since it would excite a suspicion that they were afraid to make the public acquainted with the reality. One of the greatest objections to the present system was, that there was no limit to the punishment courts martial might inflict, but the mercy of the members. They might order five, or five thousand, lashes without controul. What was the mischief to be dreaded? was it discussion? but according to the statement of the other side of the house, the discussion of the subject had produced the most important

benefits, since in consequence of it corporal punishment had of late years greatly lessened. An honourable gentleman had said, that in the militia nothing was to be feared, because the officers were frequently magistrates, or had sat on grand juries; and yet Sir Robert Wilson had stated expressly, that corporal punishment was more frequent in the militia than in any other department of the service. It was mere hypocrisy to say, that the minds of the soldiers would be inflamed by what passed in parliament: they would perhaps never hear of it; and would those be affected by statements in a deliberative assembly, who were compelled to witness unmoved the sufferings of a fellow-creature? It should further be considered, that most of those who were thus subject to be degraded and tormented, were forced or debauched into the service.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that thinking, as he did, that corporal infliction was a necessary evil, he was of opinion that nothing could be more detrimental than the language used on the other side. He did not dread so much the dissemination of the truth, as the exaggerated misrepresentations which had been employed, and the bringing into notice solitary instances of severity or suffering, for which no parallel could be found. He admitted that there had formerly been cases where the punishment had been partially inflicted at one time, and completed at another; but modern practice had been the reverse. Would the production of the document required throw the faintest light upon the cases selected by the honourable

nourable baronet from the newspapers ; to which authority, however, he gave little credit ? In his opinion, nothing but the most trying necessity could justify the discussion of military affairs by the legislature. It had been urged, that resistance to the motion provoked discussion. How could that be avoided, when gentlemen finding that they should not have the documents to debate on another

day, took this opportunity of declaiming on the general question of flogging in the army ? He concluded with declaring his determination to give his decided negative to the motion.

Some other members joined in the debate ; but nothing new occurred in the way of argument : The house divided on the motion : ayes, 17 ; noes, 49 : majority against it, 32.

CHAPTER VIII.

Motions of Lord Donoughmore and Mr. Grattan, for taking into Consideration the Catholic Claims—Reference to Committees in both Houses of Petitions against the Orders in Council—Motions concerning Captain Henry's Mission to the United States—Motion on the Tellerships of the Exchequer—Mr. Brand's Motion respecting Elections for Knights of the Shire.

THE friends to the claims of the Irish Catholics, notwithstanding the several defeats of their efforts in parliament, were determined not to relinquish a contest, success in which appeared to them of so much public importance; and a great number of petitions on the subject having poured in from the catholics of the different counties in Ireland, supported by those of the protestant inhabitants in various parts, as well as by other bodies, it was thought expedient again to bring the topic to discussion in both houses of parliament.

On April 21, the Earl of Donoughmore, in the House of Lords, moved the order of the day for a committee to take into consideration the claims of the catholic body for the removal of the disabilities under which they labour. The order having been read, his lordship rose to speak. Before entering into the particulars of this debate, however, we must observe, that the necessity under which the speakers lay of repeating arguments so often already advanced on each side, will excuse us from the task of reporting more respecting it than the matters by which it was peculiarly distinguished.

Lord Donoughmore began by adverting to the petitions which had previously been read, and their object—the removal of unjust restrictions—the revival of suspended rights. He anticipated the objection, that the question was one on which their lordships had twice decided during the present session, by observing, that in both those instances it had been complicated with other considerations of a weighty nature. He then took a view of what had been done in Ireland from 1792 with regard to the catholic petitions, and alluded to the unfortunate scruples which had prevented the completion of the work of conciliation. This topic leading him to the supposed opinion of the Prince Regent on the subject, he was called to order by Lord Kenyon, as making use of unparliamentary language. He, however, vindicated the manner in which he had introduced the Regent's name, and lamented the voluntary sacrifice of his Royal Highness's avowed feelings, to the assumed scruples, and political religion, of his minister. In the remainder of his speech, which chiefly consisted in a spirited amplification of the idea last stated, the following

following passage was much talked of at the time: "The ministers have drawn, as it were, a magic circle round the throne, into which none are permitted to enter, on whom the confidence of the illustrious person has been accustomed to repose. Within its range the artificers of mischief have not ceased to work with too successful industry. What phantoms have they not conjured up to warp the judgment, to excite the feelings, and appal the firmness of the royal mind? But though the evil genius should assume a mitred, nay more than noble form, the sainted aspect which political bigotry delights to wear, or the lineaments of that softer sex which first beguiled man to his destruction—though to the allurements of Calypso's court, were joined the magic and the charms of that matured enchantress—should the spirit of darkness take a human shape, and issuing forth from the inmost recesses of the gaming house or brothel, presume to place itself near the royal ear;—what though the potent spell should not have worked in vain, and that the boasted recantation of all incumbering prepossessions, and inconvenient prejudices had already marked the triumph of its course—though from the royal side they should have torn the chosen friend of his youth and faithful counsellor of his maturer years—though they should have banished from the royal councils talents, integrity, honour, and high-mindedness like his, and should have selected for his illustrious person an associate and an adviser from Change-alley and the stews—though they should thus have filled up to its full measure

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the disgusting catalogue of their enormities, we must still cling to the foundering vessel, and call to our aid those characteristic British energies by which the ancestors of those, whom I have now the honour to address, have so often and so nobly saved the sinking state." After a variety of other animated references to the opposition declared against the catholic claims, and the necessity of persevering in the cause, his lordship moved for the appointment of a committee to take into consideration the laws imposing disabilities on his Majesty's subjects professing the catholic religion.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex then rose, and made an elaborate speech in favour of general toleration, which was afterwards published with copious explanatory notes, indicating an uncommon degree of attention to subjects of ecclesiastical history in one of his exalted rank.

In the long debate which ensued, every topic was agitated which had been touched upon in the former discussions of the catholic question, chiefly, however, by those who were friendly to the concessions desired, who took a wider compass of argument than their opponents, who for the most part confined themselves to the dangers which the protestant establishment would incur from such concessions. The Marquis of Wellesley again greatly distinguished himself by the enlarged and statesman-like views which he gave of the subject. In arguing upon the impolicy of continuing exclusions which were sure to perpetuate a spirit of hostility to the protestant church, he presented a picture of the

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the weakness of that church which certainly deserves a serious consideration, "I do not wish (said he) to speak with disrespect of that protestant establishment in Ireland, whose security is so readily believed in this country, nor to cast any reflections upon those who preside over that establishment; yet I know that the true state of the church of Ireland, in a very great degree, consists of bishops without clergy, churches without clergymen, and clergymen without churches; parishes of considerable extent without clergymen, church, or glebe; many parishes frequently consolidated into one, with a common church too remote for the parishioners to resort to. Can a church so circumstanced possess internal strength for its own defence against the mass of opposition excited against it? and is not that strength less likely to be increased by arming itself with violence against the mass of discontent set in array by the intolerance of the laws enacted for its support?"

The speakers on each side, besides those first mentioned, were, against the motion, Lords Redesdale, Liverpool, and the Lord Chancellor; for it, Lords Selkirk, Wellesley, Downshire, Byron, Moira, and Grenville. At five in the morning the house divided, when the numbers were, contents present, 67; proxies, 35; total 102: non-contents present, 103; proxies, 71; total, 174: majority against the motion, 72.

In the House of Commons, a similar motion for a committee on the civil disabilities of the Roman Catholics was made on April 23, by Mr. Grattan. The debate to

which it gave rise, was continued by adjournment to the second day; and there was no possible light in which the subject could be placed which was not resorted to by the different speakers on each side, though in fact the whole was only a recapitulation of statements and arguments employed in the preceding discussions of the same general topic. The conclusion was, that at the hour of six in the morning a division took place, in which there appeared ayes 215, noes 300; majority against the motion 85.

Thus the Catholic cause sustained a third defeat in both houses of parliament; nor did it appear that the accession of the Prince Regent to the full authority of the crown had made any difference as to the sentiments and conduct of his ministers on this important occasion.

Notwithstanding the tenacity with which the ministers had maintained the policy of the orders in council, the increasing distresses of the manufacturing parts of the kingdom, and the serious disturbances thence arising, could not fail of exciting some misgivings in their minds, and rendering them desirous of making such relaxations as might tend to open the former channels of commerce. It was doubtless in consequence of these considerations that a declaration in the name of the Prince Regent was issued on April 23, purporting, that the Regent having declared, that if at any time the Berlin and Milan decrees should by an authentic act be absolutely repealed, thenceforth the orders in council of the 7th of January, 1807, and the 26th of April, 1809, should

should be revoked; and the *chargé d'affaires* of the United States of America having on the 20th of May last transmitted to this court a copy of a decree of the government of France passed on the 28th of April, by which the decrees of Milan and Berlin are declared to be no longer in force with respect to American vessels: the Regent, although he cannot consider the tenor of the said decree as satisfying the conditions of the order of April 23, yet, being disposed to re-establish the usual intercourse between neutral and belligerent nations, is pleased to declare the orders in council of January 7, 1807, and April 26, 1809, revoked as far as concerns American vessels and cargoes. A proviso is, however, added to this concession, that unless the American government revoke their exclusion of British armed vessels from their harbours while those of France are admitted, and their interdiction of British commerce while that with France is restored, the present order is to be null and of no effect.

Petitions against the orders in council were in the mean time pouring in from the towns most affected by their operation; and on April 28th, Lord Stanley rose in the House of Commons to move for a committee for taking them into consideration. In his introductory speech he dwelt upon the effects experienced from these orders, and the heavy distress to which the working poor were reduced in many of the trading and manufacturing parts.

Mr. Rose, in reply, made various statements to show the justice of the orders in council, and to prove

that though some branches of trade were sufferers from the want of a market, yet that others were flourishing. He concluded with declaring that as he thought it due to the petitions that their prayers should be taken into consideration, he would not oppose the noble lord's motion.

Some further conversation ensued, in which the ministers and their partisans continued to defend the policy of the orders in council by arguments often before repeated, but expressed a willingness to consent to an examination of the petitions presented. The question being put, it was accordingly agreed to, and it was ordered that the committee on the orders in council should sit to-morrow, and be continued from day to day. On the motion of Mr. Brougham, witnesses were summoned from Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, &c.

Earl Fitzwilliam made, in the House of Lords, on May 5, a similar motion for referring to a committee the various petitions on the subject of the orders in council. The consent of the ministers to the motion produced some observations from the lords in opposition, which were met by recriminations, charging the preceding administration with having originated the measures complained of. There was nothing, however, novel in the remarks of either party on this much agitated topic; and the motion was agreed to without opposition.

The examinations relative to the facts alleged in these petitions now went on regularly in both houses, till they were interrupted

by an event which we shall shortly have to record, and which probably had a considerable influence upon the final result.

A circumstance having occurred tending to increase the animosity of the Americans against this country, it became about this period a subject of discussion in parliament.

The president of the United States sent a message to congress asserting that an authorized agent of the British government, Capt. Henry, had been sent by the governor of the British territories of North America into the adjacent states, in order to foment discontents for the purpose of detaching them from the union. This heavy charge being transmitted in the American newspapers, Lord Holland rose in the House of Lords, on April 28th, and after mentioning the fact of the message, said, that he hoped the noble lord opposite would be able to satisfy the public by a contradiction of the assertion.

The Earl of Liverpool had no hesitation in answering that no person had been employed by this government to foment discontents in the United States, and that no intention existed on the part of government to make any attempt to separate the union. He said, that Captain Henry was not employed by government at all; and he supposed that Sir James Craig could have employed him only to obtain information with a view to the defence of Canada, in case of a war.

Mr. Whitbread introduced the subject in a similar manner in the House of Commons, and was simi-

larly answered by Lord Castlereagh, who said that government had only heard in a dispatch from Sir James Craig that an agent had been employed, announcing at the same time that he had been recalled. Mr. W. said that he was not satisfied with this answer; and declared his intention of moving for the production of the governor's correspondence on this subject.

Lord Holland, who had given notice in the House of Lords of a similar motion for the production of papers, rose to speak to the point on May 5. He said, the proposition he was about to submit to their lordships had no reference whatever to the line of policy proper to be pursued with respect to the United States, but was grounded on the general relations of all civilized states; he could not therefore understand upon what objections an opposition to his motion (which had been intimated) could be founded. It went to the crimination of no man or set of men, but upon the necessity of vindicating the government of this country from what he trusted was an unfounded charge made against it. This charge was no less than that while two friendly powers were engaged in negotiation upon certain points of national importance, a member of the British government had employed a secret agent in the territories of the United States, not to procure intelligence, which was a legitimate object, but for the purpose of inducing some of the states of the union to throw off their allegiance, and separate themselves from the rest. This charge originally came from an individual who avowedly betrayed the

the secrets of his own employers. His lordship then referred to certain points of the papers communicated to congress, and to that part of the instructions to Capt. Henry which mentioned the enclosure of credentials to him, and spoke of the probability of the Federalists no longer submitting to the situation in which they had been placed by their government, but eventually looking up to the English for their assistance. Lord H. proceeded to show the dishonourableness of such conduct, and the improbability that Sir J. Craig would have so employed Henry without instructions from his government, or transmitting to it the communications he had received; and he adverted to the fact, that when Henry claimed his reward, he presented a memorial to the office of the noble secretary of state referring to Sir J. Craig for his conduct, and had in consequence received a letter to General Prevost, the successor of Sir J. Craig, recommending him to a valuable office in the country which he governed. Lord H. concluded by moving an address to the Prince Regent, for the production of copies of all the communications made by Sir J. Craig to his Majesty's secretary of state relative to the employment of Capt. Henry in a secret mission to the United States of America; also of the correspondence between the secretary of state and Sir George Prevost, on the subject of compensations claimed by Captain Henry for his services; and also copies of all instructions sent to Sir J. Craig from the secretary of state relative to the employment of Capt. Henry in the United States.

The Earl of Liverpool, in reply, began with repeating his former statement, that the government here had no knowledge of the employment of the person in question until many months after the transaction. It was true that a person named Lavater, going in 1808 from Canada to the United States on his own business, had, of his own accord, opened a correspondence with the governor of Canada for the purpose of procuring information; and his lordship justified this proceeding by a detail of the menacing attitude with respect to the British American possessions then assumed by the United States. Sir J. Craig sent Henry thither in February, 1809. A great deal of what appeared in the papers was false and unfounded; but as far as authentic instruction went, he must contend that the directions were not for the purpose of exciting discontent, but wholly for obtaining necessary information. With respect to the remuneration of Capt. Henry, as he had a recommendation from Sir J. Craig, backed by some very respectable persons in London, and it appeared that he had been really employed in services for which a remuneration had been promised, he (the secretary) had held it his duty to act as was mentioned in the correspondence with Sir G. Prevost. It was not afterwards deemed consistent with delicacy to say any thing which might in the least have reflected upon the character of Sir J. Craig, who had returned home from his government under a mortal distemper, and had survived but a few months. He could not approve the course adopt-
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ed by the noble baron, but thought it should be left to government to pursue the proper measures to explain and set forth the subject in its true light. Nor could he approve the conduct of the American executive, which, without demanding explanation, or making any notification to the British minister, had at once laid the papers before congress.

Earl Grey thought the question was one of great importance, and wished that the charge of communicating with subjects of the United States who were desirous of withdrawing themselves from the union, had been authoritatively denied. He dwelt much on the flagitiousness of such conduct, which he conceived would be unjustifiable even between states at war, still more in peace, whatever apprehensions there might be of impending war. The noble lord had admitted that the letters spoken of had afterwards been communicated to the secretary of state; but there was no evidence of any disapprobation being expressed by him; and the governor was only enjoined to be cautious in the employment of such agents "for fear of involving the country in a quarrel with America." Under such circumstances he thought the house was called upon explicitly to condemn the principle: if they did not so, they must for the future be silent with respect to any similar breach of good faith on the part of France, or any other government.

Viscount Sidmouth said he had never known a case so greatly exaggerated. If it were even admitted that Sir J. Craig, in his anxiety to preserve the province committed

to his care, had overstepped the limits of strict political discretion, there still existed no pretence to accuse ministers, who were completely ignorant of the transaction. Sir James, in fact, in a moment of danger, had employed a person to ascertain the dispositions of the inhabitants of the contiguous districts, who was not directed to excite discontents, but to observe any disposition that he might find favourable to the British cause. His lordship maintained that publishing the whole correspondence would be attended with a serious evil, as it would disclose the names of those Americans who were represented as friendly to the British cause, or inclined to a change in their own government; and he intreated the house not to encroach on the functions of the executive government, but to leave the affair to be settled by mutual explanations between his Majesty's ministers and the American government.

After some other lords had spoken on each side of the question, Lord Holland rose again to make observations upon some points which had been urged by the lords opposite. He expressed indignation at the conduct of ministers in not attempting any direct defence, but seeking to shelter themselves by throwing all the responsibility upon the memory of Sir J. Craig. He particularly animadverted on the noble viscount's (Sidmouth) inconsistency, who had displayed so much sensibility respecting the Copenhagen expedition, yet was disposed to palliate an act equally subversive of good faith and the law of nations. Upon the whole, he said, a public charge had

had been made, and it was the duty of government that the refutation should be as public as the imputation; and nothing could clear the honour of the country unless it were ample and satisfactory. As to the objection that had been urged of the impolicy of such disclosures as the production of the papers would lead to, he wished for none that would unnecessarily affect the interests either of countries or individuals: and he was willing to narrow his motion in any way that would enable him to obtain the specific information he desired.

The house then divided on the motion: contents, 27; non-contents, 73: majority, 46.

No further proceedings on this subject took place in the House of Commons during the present session.

Another attempt to lessen the national expenditure, though of small magnitude in its object, and unsuccessful, deserves notice on account of the doctrine held on the occasion in the House of Commons.

On May 7th, Mr. Creevey rose to call the attention of the house to the two tellerships of the exchequer held by the Marquis of Buckingham and Lord Camden. It was his intention to consider this as a mere question of private property between those individuals and the public. The places had been given as rewards for the services of the fathers of these noblemen, and he did not mean to find fault with their distribution; but his objections were that their emoluments were indefinite in their amount, and disproportioned to the circumstances of the nation. The fees

of these offices were of such a nature that they rose exactly in proportion to the distresses of the country. From the report of the commissioners of public accounts it appeared that in 1782, when they were granted, which was a time of peace, they did not exceed 2,500*l.* per annum, which sum, during the American war, was increased to 7,000*l.* In 1808, such had been the public expenditure that the tellership had risen to 23,000*l.* per annum each, and there was no doubt that the emolument must now be considerably more. This was a much greater sum than had been granted as rewards for all the splendid military services that had been performed for the country; and he could not bring himself to acknowledge the right of these two noblemen to derive such enormous emoluments from the public calamities. He would deny the principle so often contended for in that house, that a grant of an office by the crown was as sacred as any ancient grant of an estate, and could not be touched by parliament. When the crown formerly made grants of lands, or even of taxes, out of its hereditary revenue, it granted its own property; but now that the whole public expenditure was under the control of parliament, he conceived that the crown could not make a grant which was not under the same control. The honourable gentleman then read extracts from the report of the commissioners of public accounts in 1782, which went to the assertion of the right of control above mentioned; and he gave instances of the present actual interference of parliament in the fees of the tellers

tellers of the exchequer. He concluded by moving certain resolutions, of which the six first related to the facts of the grant of the offices of tellers (performed entirely by deputy) to the present possessors, and their past and present emoluments: the seventh was in the following terms:—"That it appears to this house, that parliament has at various times asserted and exercised a right of limitation and controul over the fees payable to the tellers, by excepting specific sums of money from the payment of all such fees; and that it is the duty of parliament, in the present unparalleled state of national expenditure and public calamity, to exercise its right still further over the fees now paid out of the public money at the exchequer, so as to confine the profits of the Marquis of Buckingham and Lord Camden to some fixed and settled sum of money, more conformable in amount to the usual grants of public money for public services, and more suited to the present means and resources of the nation."

After the first resolution had been put and seconded, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that although the first six resolutions might be safely affirmed, yet as he could not assent to the practical effect intended to be derived from them, he should move the previous question upon them, and give his decided negative to the seventh. The tellerships of the exchequer were ancient offices, and legally within the gift of the crown. The right of those noblemen to them was a vested right which could not be touched, and he conceived the emoluments to be also vested interests which must be protected.

There would be much more danger and mischief from breaking down the barriers of private property in this instance, than in allowing the receipt of the 40 or 50 thousand a year, which were now the emoluments of those offices. The conduct of parliament in 1782 in not disturbing those vested interests, while they regulated the emoluments of tellers to be subsequently appointed, was a clear parliamentary recognition of those rights.

Mr. Ponsouby spoke on the same side, and asserted that by the law of England no estate was better known, defined, and protected, than an estate in office. It was as much private property as any other species of property could be. He would not agree to the conclusions of the committee in 1782, "That the state, acting for the public good, might interfere with the emoluments of every office." The state had the power to do so, but the power was not the right. There was no knowing where that principle, if once admitted, might stop. Parliament might think it had a right to examine into the church, and consider what bishops had more than a suitable reward for their labours, or to take away the tithes from the clergy and lay proprietors.

Mr. Brand differed from the gentlemen who had already spoken. He admitted completely the legality of the grants, and the vested interests in their emoluments of those who held them. If, however, it should be found that parliament had been in the habit of limiting those fees from time to time, then it appeared to him that they who took those offices, took them subject to the controlling power of parliament.

parliament. He should, therefore, wish to vote for the first six resolutions, and that a committee be then appointed to examine how far parliament had in former times interfered in reducing the salaries of offices for life.

Lord A. Hamilton denied the similarity of this case to that of bishops, who had great and important duties to perform; whereas the offices in question had only grown and increased with the burdens and distresses of the country. He put suppositions of a future enormous addition to these emoluments; and said that if called upon to give his vote whether the house could or could not interfere in this matter, he must give it in behalf of the public.

Mr. Whitbread, while he admitted the legal and vested right in the fees of their office, contended that parliament was entitled to regulate and confine these emoluments when they became exorbitant, and beyond any thing that could have been in contemplation when the office was created, or when the present possessors obtained their grants: and he instanced, with respect to the tellerships, the sums paid for the extinction of the national debt, and the income tax. There could not be a doubt that when the house voted additional supplies, they had the power to exempt them from the operation of these fees; and if the principle of vested right could be interfered with at all, it might to a greater extent.

Some other members spoke to the question, for the most part in favour of the rights of the tellers, but nothing additional was advanced in point of argument.

The six first resolutions of Mr. Creevey were then severally put, and the previous question was carried against each of them. Mr. Brand moved, as an amendment to the seventh, "That a committee be appointed to inquire into the precedents which exist as to the deduction from, or suppression of, any fees payable to the tellers of the exchequer for monies issued out of the same."

The house divided upon this amendment; for it 38, against it 146. The original resolution was then negatived without a division.

The subject of reform of parliament was again taken up in the House of Commons at this part of the session. On May 8th, Mr. Brand rose, pursuant to notice, to submit to the house a motion on the present defective state of the representation. He began with some general remarks on the notorious existing corruptions prevalent in the elections of members of parliament, and on the dangers which threatened the constitution from the number of members returned by places now desolated, or which possessed so few inhabitants that it was a mockery to continue to them the elective franchise. He said, that it appeared from facts which he had collected, that 182 individuals returned by nomination, or otherwise, 326 members; that there were above 70 placemen in the house, and above 40 persons who were returned by compromise. How could that be called a full and free representation, in which there were 292 persons so brought in that they could not exercise a fair discretion on the subjects brought under their consideration? Having stated
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some more of the evils attached to the present system, he proceeded to the remedies: generally, he said, the leading steps would be, first, granting to copyholders the right to vote; secondly, abolishing the right of nomination so as to generalize the right of voting, and thereby more fairly to proportion the number of representatives to the population of each place represented. Having opened and enforced his plan in various other observations, one of which was, "Give him seven or eight borough proprietors, and he had not the least doubt but that at all times he would be able to command a majority of the house;" he concluded with moving, "That leave be given to bring in a bill to repeal the act 31 Geo. 2, c. 14, for further explaining the laws touching the electors of knights of the shire to serve in parliament for that part of Great Britain called England, and to entitle copyholders to vote for knights of the shire."

The motion was seconded by the Marquis of Tavistock, who declared his intention, should it be carried, of moving the repeal of the Septennial act.

In the copious debate which ensued, and which was maintained by many of the principal speakers, all the usual topics on both sides respecting reform of parliament were gone over, and every measure which had a tendency to that end was decidedly condemned; not only by the partisans of the actual ministry, but by several of those of the oppositionists who compose what is termed the whig party. It was contended by these speakers that all change in the mode of representation would be dangerous, ineffectual to cure any of the public evils, and was very little desired by the nation. The friends of reform on the other hand dwelt upon the obvious inadequacy of the representation, and the never-failing support given by the House of Commons to every minister; a proof of the influence regularly exerted over the majority. The particular merits of the measure proposed were scarcely at all touched upon, and the ground taken by its opposers was that of resistance in the outset to every attempt at alteration. The House at length divided on the motion, ayes 88, noes 215; majority 127.

CHAPTER IX.

Assassination of Mr. Perceval, and Parliamentary Proceedings thereupon.

THE public business was at this time interrupted by a very extraordinary and tragical event, the assassination of the prime minister. As Mr. Perceval, on May 11th, was entering the lobby of the House of Commons at a quarter past five o'clock, a person of the name of Bellingham, who had placed himself at the side of the door for that purpose, fired a pistol at him, the ball of which entered his left breast. Mr. Perceval immediately staggered and fell. He was taken up by Mr. W. Smith, and with the assistance of other members was conveyed to the Speaker's apartments; but before he reached them, all signs of life were gone. The assassin had taken so sure an aim, that the ball passed through his heart at the center.

As soon as the horror occasioned by this catastrophe had somewhat subsided, a person exclaimed, "Where is the villain who fired?" Bellingham stepped forward and coolly replied, "I am the unfortunate man." He made no attempt to escape; and being interrogated as to his motive for the deed, he said, "My name is Bellingham; it is a private injury—I know what I have done—it was a denial of justice on the part of government." He was then searched, and carried to the

bar of the house, which had been sitting in committee on the orders in council. The Speaker resuming the chair, General Gascoyne said, "I think I know the villain," and on stepping up, called him by his name. The Speaker then proposed that he should be committed to the prison-room, not leading him back through the lobby, lest a rescue should be attempted by accomplices; for the first idea naturally seems to have been that the murder was perpetrated on a public ground, and in consequence of a conspiracy. All proper precautions being taken, both to prevent injury to others, and that the criminal might not destroy himself, and a committee being appointed to examine and give evidence on the facts, the house adjourned.

In the House of Lords, as soon as the rumour of the event arrived, the greatest agitation was manifested. At length, their lordships resuming their seats, the Lord Chancellor addressing them, said that he felt it his duty to apprise their lordships that he should take care to give orders that none should go out of the doors of this house till their lordships were fully satisfied that they had not the means of doing further mischief. This was understood as a determination that all below the bar should be searched

to see that they had no weapons; but the alarm of conspiracy having now probably subsided, this resolution was not persisted in. The fact of Mr. Perceval's death, and the adjournment of the commons being then ascertained, the Earl of Radnor moved, "That an humble address be presented to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, stating, that the house had heard with horror of the attack made upon, and the assassination of, the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, one of his Majesty's most honourable privy council, and praying that his Royal Highness would be graciously pleased to direct such steps to be taken as he should deem expedient for the apprehension of the offender or offenders."

This motion was agreed to *nem. diss.* and the house adjourned.

The Prince Regent sent a correspondent answer to this address; and on the following day a message was received from him by both houses, recommending a provision for the numerous and afflicted family of Mr. Perceval. Lord Castlereagh opened the business in the House of Commons, and paid a very feeling tribute to the virtues and merits of the deceased minister. Amidst his distress on this occasion he was, however, happy to mention, that as far as they had been enabled to investigate the subject, government were of opinion that this was an insulated act, and confined to the individual by whom it was perpetrated. With respect to the extent of the provision, he doubted not that the house would be anxious to protect all who bore the name of his lamented friend from the danger of poverty. In conclusion, he moved an humble

address to the Prince Regent, expressing their participation in the severe loss sustained by his Royal Highness and the public, and their abhorrence of the crime committed, and assuring him of their ready compliance with his recommendation.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ponsonby; who said, that although no one thought Mr. Perceval's political opinions more erroneous than he had done, yet he always entertained the highest idea of his honour, and the greatest affection for his person. He had known him in early life, and had never known a man of greater worth, or more exemplary in the domestic relations of life.

Mr. Canning and Mr. Whitbread joined in the same sentiments, and the address was agreed to *nem. con.* and ordered to be carried up by the whole house. On the suggestion of Lord Castlereagh, a committee of the whole house was ordered for the morrow, to consider the message; and it was determined that the house should be adjourned from day to day.

After the house had delivered its address to the Regent on May 13, it was resolved into a committee for considering the provision to be made for Mr. Perceval's family. Lord Castlereagh stated that the right honourable gentleman, besides a widow, had left twelve children to the protection of the public, and that the property he had left was so moderate as to afford no possibility of their living in a style suited to their rank. With respect to the nature of the grant, he thought it would be most eligible to vote a substantive sum of money in the first instance
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for the children, and afterwards an annuity for their mother. The sums which he proposed were 50,000*l.* for the first purpose, and 2,000*l.* per annum for the second; and he moved a resolution for the former grant. Some members regarding this as too little for the services of the father, and mentioning a larger sum, Mr. Wilberforce rose, and after making a warm eulogy on the character of the deceased, observed, that however general the sense of his claims on account of private merit might be, yet that his political opinions were known to have had many opponents; and as it was highly desirable that the vote should be cordial and unanimous, he thought the sum mentioned was a proper medium. The same opinion was held by Mr. Whitbread: and the first resolution being put, with the addition by Mr. Bankes, that the sum should be paid without fee or deduction, it passed *nem. con.*

The second resolution, for an annuity to Mrs. Perceval of 2,000*l.* without fee or deduction, being put by Lord Castlereagh, was carried *nem. con.*

This unanimity was disturbed, and the debate unfortunately assumed somewhat of a party aspect, by Mr. H. Sumner's motion, "That the annuity of 2,000*l.* payable to the Hon. Jane Perceval for her life, shall, after her decease, be paid to such male descendant of the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval as shall be at that time his heir, for the term of his natural life."

Mr. Whitbread declared his dissent from this proposal; Mr. Wilberforce expressed his apprehension

that such a vote would be suspected to have originated from the political opinions of those who had usually supported the deceased minister; Lord Castlereagh moved an amendment upon it which went to set it aside; and other members spoke against it. When, however, the division took place, Lord Castlereagh's amendment was rejected by 107 against 67, and Mr. Sumner's motion was carried by 136 against 23.

The report being brought up on the next day, the first and second resolutions were read and agreed to *nem. con.* Mr. Huskisson then rose, and after some observations respecting the situation of Mr. Perceval's eldest son, now at the university, who would come out into the world with a slender pittance, proposed that the third resolution should be recommitted, and a grant included in it of 1,000*l.* a year to the eldest son on his reaching the age of 21, without prejudice to his reversionary right to the sum already voted. A debate then ensued, in which unanimity being no longer the consideration, the friends of the late minister showed a determination to maintain the ground they had gained, and carry the national bounty to his family as far as the feelings of the house would permit; whilst the members in opposition seemed to think that enough had already been done for justice, and that augmentations would only be an abuse of the public generosity. Regarding the particulars of this discussion as neither pleasant nor instructive, we shall only state its result. This was, that after the original resolution, and a motion for

for postponement, had been negatived, Mr. Huskisson's motion for a recommitment was carried.

On May 15, Lord Clive rose to move for an address to the Prince Regent for a monument to the memory of Mr. Perceval in Westminster Abbey. This was opposed by Mr. Lambe as a clear recognition of his public services, which could not be acquiesced in by those who had disagreed with him in his political measures. Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Wynn, and Lord Milton, spoke to the same effect. Lord Castlereagh, Mr. Canning, Mr. Wilberforce, and others, supported the motion, which was carried on a division by 199 votes against 26.

Mr. Huskisson then, upon a recommitment of the resolution proposed by Mr. Sumner, moved his amendment upon it relative to the grant of 1,000*l.* a year to the eldest son of Mr. Perceval, which was agreed to without opposition.

On the bringing up of the report of the committee on May 20, Mr. Whitbread rose to make his final objections to the resolution, on the ground that any thing further than what had been done by the first resolutions must be considered as a reward for public services, in which he could not concur. He also mentioned some particulars of the circumstances of the family, to show that such an addition was not necessary. The debate was then

resumed, at no great length, and terminated in a division, on which the resolution was carried by 171 against 16.

The only other parliamentary proceeding immediately consequent upon Mr. Perceval's assassination arose from a circumstance in Bellingham's trial. That criminal, in justification of his act, which he always defended as vindictive of the injury he had sustained from the ministers in refusing him compensation for wrongs which he asserted that he had undergone in Russia, particularly complained of the conduct of Lord Granville Leveson Gower, then ambassador in that country, and Sir Stephen Sharp, the consul-general. His lordship, therefore, on May 20, moved in the House of Commons for the production of a letter from himself to the secretary of state for the home department, Lord Castlereagh, stating all the circumstances relative to the case of John Bellingham. An address to the Prince Regent was agreed to for this purpose, and the letter was read before the house. Of its contents no more needs here to be said, than that it completely exculpated his lordship and Sir Stephen with respect to that unhappy man, whose passions appear entirely to have obscured his reason as far as concerned his transactions in Russia.

CHAPTER X.

Mr. Wortley's Motion for an efficient Administration—Negotiations for a New Administration; and Discussions in Parliament on that Subject—Repeal of the Orders in Council.

WHATEVER might be the general opinion of Mr. Perceval's talents as a statesman, no one denied his ability as a skilful leader in the House of Commons. His loss to the existing administration was therefore considered as a stroke which they could not possibly survive; and it immediately set in motion all that mass of political intrigue and speculation which never fails to be called into activity upon a prospect of change in the government. The first operation of the parliamentary campaign opened on this occasion, was the motion of Mr. Stuart Wortley respecting a strong and efficient administration.

This honourable gentleman rose on May 21, to submit to the House of Commons a motion for an address to the Prince Regent, praying his Royal Highness to take such measures as might be best calculated to form an efficient administration. He said, it was notorious that an administration was upon the eve of being formed which no disinterested man thought adequate to meet the exigencies of the times; and he thought it a more manly part to resist *in limine* the formation of such a government, than to look on idly, and afterwards commence a systematic opposition to

it. His object then was, to address his Royal Highness to form an efficient administration, thereby implying that the persons now about to be called to, and to be continued in the management of public affairs, did not possess the confidence of the country. With respect to the grounds of his motion, they might be stated in these three questions: Whether at the present crisis, an efficient government, possessing the full confidence of the people, was not absolutely necessary? Did the present government possess that confidence? Had all been done that might have been done to form the desired administration? The first of these positions was too self-evident to require an answer. The second was in his mind equally true and certain. If the present government had not been very strong even with the aid of Mr. Perceval's great talents, they were certainly worse than weak without it. As to the third, he thought that little, very little, had been done towards the furtherance of an object so desirable. He then alluded to the abortive attempt which had some time ago been made to enlarge the basis of the administration, and said that he was convinced nothing effectual could be done in this point

point without conciliating the Catholics. After some further observations on this topic, he asserted that his motion came before them destitute of any other influence than what it might derive from its own merits. It was entirely spontaneous: he had consulted no one about it, and was then actually ignorant whether it would be seconded or not. As one of the greatest friends and admirers of Mr. Perceval, he had come forward in an open and undisguised manner to show that the government, deprived of him, could not be supported by all his friends. He felt a pain in so doing from his relation to the noble lord below him, but it was a sacrifice on the altar of duty. The honourable member concluded by moving the announced address.

Lord Milton seconded the motion.

Mr. Eyre opposed it as an unconstitutional interference with the prerogative of the crown, of which there was no instance upon record. The house had interfered when an administration had been formed and found inefficient, but had never come forward with its previous advice. He disputed the honourable mover's ground of the inefficiency of the present administration. They had, indeed, lost their greatest support, and had attempted to remedy it by seeking the aid of persons whose political opinions were nearly the same with their own, but who would not concur in the proposal unless certain questions were conceded to them: questions already determined by the votes of the house, and he believed, by the opinion of the country. He had no great reliance upon the

prophetic anticipation of what an administration was to be. He had seen administrations prematurely denounced as weak, conduct public affairs with activity and vigour, whilst others of great promise had miserably failed. The honourable gentleman then moved as an amendment, "That the other orders of the day be now read."

Lord Milton supported the original motion, and contended that it was not only the right, but the absolute duty, of the House of Commons to interfere when they saw an administration about to be formed which was not likely to obtain the confidence of the people. He said that the unsuccessful attempt of the present ministers to ally themselves with men of abilities who differed with them upon great political questions, was an acknowledgment of their incompetency.

Sir F. Burdett gave reasons why he could not concur either in the motion or the amendment. There had been many ministries composed of persons of different principles, who, nevertheless, had done nothing to relieve the country from its dangers and burdens, which never could be done without a constitutional reform in the representation of the people in parliament; and he read a proposed amendment of the original motion to that effect.

Mr. Wilberforce argued at some length on the unconstitutional nature of the interference with the prerogative of the crown implied in the first motion, and said that thirty years ago, the question whether the house should have a previous negative on the appointment of ministers had been decided. Perhaps it might be said that the
motion

motion did not go to prescribe to the prince whom he should choose, but to recommend a strong administration; but it was fair to combine the motion with the speech by which it was introduced. With respect to the question of parliamentary reform, he had always been favourable to it, but he did not see how such reform could materially diminish the difficulties of the country.

The hon. J. W. Ward would not admit that the interference proposed was unconstitutional, though he allowed that it should not be resorted to but on important occasions; but what, he asked, could be more important than the present? There were two grounds for the adoption of the motion; the danger of the country, and the acknowledged weakness of the present administration. The first was admitted on all sides. With respect to the second, he should spare himself the disagreeable task of naming individuals, but he might appeal to the public feeling, manifested in some degree even before the death of Mr. Perceval, though his ability was thought by many to compensate for the inefficiency of his colleagues. Such persons, however, would pay a poor compliment to his memory if they continued to place the same confidence in the administration which had lost his support. The honourable member then proceeded to allude to the alleged attempt for procuring an addition of strength, by bringing over a gentleman of great talents and eloquence (Mr. Canning), and a noble Marquis (Wellesley), the sincerity of which he called in question; and he par-

ticularly adverted to the anti-catholic principle which was fundamental to the existing ministry.

Mr. Ryder repeated some of the arguments already adduced to prove that the motion was unconstitutional, and pointed out the difference between the case which had been alluded to, respecting Mr. Pitt, and the present. He then found it necessary to touch upon some facts pretty generally known, premising that he could not be suspected of any private motive, since he was no longer a member of the administration. He believed his right hon. friend (Mr. Canning) would not say that the offers had not been made in perfect sincerity, and in the hope that they would be accepted. He did not mean to impute their rejection as a fault to him, but he knew it had excited extreme concern on the part of government. With respect to the opinions held on the principal topics at issue, he had papers which fully explained them, but which at this time, he did not think himself authorised to produce. He could see no ground for supposing inability in the noble lord at the head of government (Lord Liverpool) who, ten or eleven years ago, had been characterised as the man most fit to succeed to the highest place with the sole exception of Mr. Fox. In conclusion, he asked whether the members, who for four years had supported by their majorities the measures of administration, would act a part agreeable to their constituents by adopting a motion intended to subvert a government which had received the highest approbation throughout the country?

Mr. Canning, though he had not meant to have troubled the house on the present occasion, could not avoid answering the call which the last member, he thought somewhat unfairly, had made upon him. In his justificatory speech, which will not bear abridgment, he said, "whatever has passed verbally without these walls, by an absolute agreement between Lord Liverpool, who made the proposition, and myself, was reduced to writing, that it might be less subject to misapprehension or perversion; and to that minute, an answer upon paper was returned by me, to which, standing at the bar of my country, to answer for my conduct, I beg leave to refer." With respect to the intimation by the mover of the amendment, that he had demanded some concessions, of principle as the price of his acceptance of office, he said that he merely inquired of Lord Liverpool, as a matter of information, whether the policy and sentiments of his colleagues continued the same; and was candidly answered, that his own opinions upon this grand topic (the catholic question) remained unchanged, and he was not aware that those of his colleagues had undergone any alteration. When he was thus informed of the settled opinions of the head of government, honoured with the chief confidence of the sovereign, and possessing all the influence and authority afforded by his station, could he for an instant doubt their practical effect on the other members of the cabinet? The right hon. gentleman in conclusion affirmed, that he had seen not only no desire to grant any thing to the

catholics, but not even a disposition that an inquiry should be instituted.

Lord Castlereagh approved highly of the manner in which the motion had been met by the amendment, since, a direct negative might have been subject to serious misconstruction. The right distinction had been taken in saying that the house was not from circumstances justified at this time to interfere, not that it ought not to interfere at all. He then entered into a defence of the ministers, and of his own conduct; and asserted, that being aware that his presence might have embarrassed government in the object of availing themselves of those talents and connexions which were deemed beneficial to the state, he had tendered his resignation to his royal highness. Adverting to the case of Mr. Canning, he said that gentleman had refused the co-operation of his talents, because he could not carry a particular point; but ought he not to have apprized the house what his practical opinion on the subject was, and what was the plan by which the measure might be carried into execution? He felt as much as any man the fundamental importance of the catholic question, but it was ridiculous to talk of creating a government simply for its discussion. He then touched upon the securities requisite from the catholic body, prior to the granting of their claims, and denied that he himself had given them any positive pledge for concession at the time of the union. He spoke of the great exertions made by the ministry for the support of the war in the peninsula; and concluded with deprecating the

the stamping of a stigma on an administration, the whole of which was not yet before the house, and throwing discredit on a government when there was little prospect of substituting a better in its room.

Sir John Newport made an animated attack upon the last noble lord, as having violated the promises by which he carried the union.

The house at length divided on the amendment, when there appeared for it 170, against it 174; majority against ministers, 4.

Mr. Wortley's motion was then carried without a division. Mr. W. next moved that the address should be presented by the whole house; but Mr. Yorke having declared his intention of moving the previous question upon it, Mr. Wortley altered his motion to that of its being presented by such members of the house as are of his Majesty's privy council. A division ensued, in which the motion was negatived by 176 to 174. Mr. Wortley expressed his utter surprise that a motion of such high importance should by any management of finesse be suffered to remain a dead letter. A debate followed in which the Speaker was appealed to in order to extricate the house from the disagreeable embarrassment it had got into. After some discussions on the point of order, Mr. Wynn moved "that the address be presented to his royal highness the Regent by Mr. Stuart Wortley and Lord Viscount Milton." This proposal was agreed to without a division; Mr. W. asserting that he should consider the day on which he presented the address as the proudest of his life.

The address was accordingly presented, and on May 22nd Mr. Wortley reported the following answer from his royal highness: "I shall take into my serious and immediate consideration the address which I received from the House of Commons."

A change in the ministry now became the most interesting topic of the time: and as it occasioned much discussion and conversation in both houses of parliament, we shall proceed to give a succinct and uninterrupted relation of the most remarkable circumstances attending it, to its final close.

Mr. Brougham first incidentally introduced the subject on May 26th, when, making a motion for an account of the London dock duties, he took occasion to observe that it was then understood "that the same vigorous and efficient administration as guided the councils of the country during the last week, possessed again the confidence of the Prince Regent, and expected to regain the confidence of the House of Commons." He also had been informed that there was an intention of moving an adjournment of the House this day, which he greatly deprecated.

Mr. Whitbread followed with a direct address to the noble lord (Castlereagh) requesting from him some distinct information respecting his own situation and the progress made in forming an efficient administration.

His lordship in answer said, that he knew of no intention of moving an adjournment; and that his own situation was now precisely what it was last Friday (22nd), he and his colleagues still retaining their offices during the interim occupied in concerting arrangements,

on an extended basis. It was worthy of notice, though not directly connected with this topic, that, advertng to an observation made by Mr. Whitbread, his lordship, at this period, totally disclaimed any knowledge whatever that this country was on the eve of a war with America.

On May 30th Mr. Martin of Galway announced his intention of moving on the next Wednesday, if something were not done to prevent it, an address to the Prince Regent, beseeching him to carry into effect without delay, his gracious declaration in answer to the address of the House of Commons.

On June 1st Mr. Canning rose for the purpose of apprizing the last hon. member and Mr. Wortley, that he had on that day received an intimation from a noble friend of his in the other house, that upon the morning of that day, the Prince Regent had given directions to him (the Marquis of Wellesley) to proceed forthwith in taking such measures as appeared to him best calculated to form a strong and efficient administration.

Mr. Wortley then, in consequence of some statements which had appeared in the newspapers, put the following questions to Mr. Ponsonby: 1. Whether any person, up to this morning, did make any proposition to the right hon. gentleman, or to any of his right hon. friends, to form part of an administration; and did they give a refusal on personal grounds, or on what other grounds? 2. Whether in what had passed in those propositions, if any were made, his friends insisted on any, and what conditions?" Mr. Ponsonby answered

the first question absolutely in the negative; the second fell of course.

On Monday, June 3rd, the matter was taken up in the House of Lords, after a motion for adjournment from the Earl of Liverpool. The Duke of Norfolk begged previously to ask of the Earl if he was only a temporary minister until a successor was appointed. The Earl replied that he was in the same situation he held on Friday se'nnight, in which he continued only till the Prince Regent should be pleased to signify his pleasure as to any future arrangement.

The Marquis Wellesley then rose and informed the house that the Prince Regent had been pleased to require his opinion with a view to the formation of an administration, and that he had stated this opinion with the freedom which his duty demanded; further, that he had this day tendered to his royal highness his resignation of the authority thus vested in him, which had been accepted. He then lamented, that the most dreadful personal animosities, and the most terrible difficulties arising out of questions the most complicated and important, should have interposed obstacles to an arrangement so essential to the public welfare. He had desired and obtained his royal highness's permission to state to the house all the circumstances of this transaction in which he had any share, but at the same time his advice was that such disclosure should not be called for, under the conviction that at the present crisis it would be highly mischievous. Earl Stanhope thought it was the duty of their

their lordships to call for this disclosure. The Earl of Limerick declared a contrary opinion.

Lord Grenville, in agreeing as to the impropriety of a present disclosure, hoped he might be permitted to state that in the little share which his noble friend (Lord Grey) and himself had in the transaction, they had nothing to disguise or conceal, or that they should not be anxious to have laid before the public whenever the proper time should arrive. He would not have risen on the present occasion, had it not been for the allusion of the noble marquis to dreadful personal animosities as an obstacle to the arrangement. He could assure their lordships, for his noble friend and himself, that they were actuated by no personal feeling whatever, but solely by considerations of public principle and public interests.

The Earl of Liverpool, in like manner, disclaimed for himself and those who acted with him the personal animosities alluded to.

The Earl of Moira said that it had been his office in the course of this negotiation to be the humble instrument of conciliation, and deeply lamented that differences and estrangements had rendered his endeavours ineffectual. He then alluded to "points of form," which had stood in the way of conciliation; but said, he was satisfied that it was all misapprehension, and trusted that before the house met again, some arrangement would be made satisfactory to the country.

Earl Grey could not but think that the noble Earl who spoke last had overstepped the line observed by other lords on this occasion.

He felt anxious to remove any misapprehensions to which his expression of "points of form" might give rise, assuring their lordships that his noble friend and he were not actuated by any considerations of "points of form," but by that of principles, which if not fundamental to the constitution, were at least essential to the existence of a government with a view to the welfare of the country. He likewise disclaimed for himself any of that feeling of personal animosity to which the Marquis W. had alluded.

The house then adjourned.

In the House of Commons, on June 3rd, Mr. Canning made a similar communication of the Marquis Wellesley's having resigned the authority conferred upon him by the Prince Regent. Mr. Martin of Galway rose to put a question on the subject to Mr. Ponsonby, but being called to order, and finding that the sense of the house was against him, he desisted.

When the House of Lords met again on June 5th, the Earl of Moira rose to discharge a duty which he doubted not that the noble Marquis (Wellesley) would have performed if he had been present in his place. This was to correct a most mischievous application that had been made of his expression relative to "personal animosity," as if it had referred to the feelings of the Prince Regent. He had distinctly to state that nothing of that quality of animosity existed; and that, as on the one hand, the illustrious personage did never suggest one individual as a fit member, or make the reservation of a single seat to be filled

upon subsequent consideration, so, on the other, there never was a stipulation for the exclusion of any person; but the fullest powers were given to the noble Marquis to lay before the Regent the most beneficial plan that could be suggested for the formation of a government competent to the present crisis.

Lord Grenville said, that he wished his noble friend who had just spoken had confined his statement to a point of which he trusted no one entertained a doubt; for as to the rest, the impression made upon his mind by an official and authorised paper was completely at variance with that which he had expressed. It was there distinctly notified that the Prince Regent had signified his pleasure that one office, particularly designated, should be held by a particular individual pointed out; and that in the whole, four individuals expressly named should occupy seats in the cabinet.

This statement was confirmed by Lord Grey, who in his speech read the following paragraph from the written document above-mentioned.

“That his royal highness the Prince Regent has signified his pleasure that Lord Wellesley should conduct the formation of a government in all its branches, and should be first commissioner of the treasury, and that Lord Moira, Lord Erskine, and Mr. Canning, should be members of the cabinet. That it was probable that a cabinet formed upon an enlarged basis must be composed of 12 or 13 members; that the Prince Regent wished Lords Grey and Grenville on the part of their

friends to recommend to his Royal Highness's approbation the names of four persons if the cabinet should consist of twelve, and of five persons if it should consist of thirteen members, to be appointed by his Royal Highness to fill such situations as might hereafter be arranged. That his Royal Highness left the selection of the names to Lords Grey and Grenville without any instruction or personal exclusion; that in completing the arrangements the Prince Regent has granted to Lord Wellesley the entire liberty to propose the names of any persons to hold places in his Royal Highness's councils, or any other persons.”

This, said Lord Grey, was the proposition made to them, which they understood, and understand, as naming particular persons, and as limiting and proving by previous arrangement that particular places should be assigned to particular persons. Under such circumstances, he and his noble friend concurred in a decided refusal of the proposition, sanctioned by Lord Holland. It was true that subsequent explanations had been afforded by the noble Earl (Moira), but without professing to have any instructions or authority from the Prince Regent.

Lord Moira said that the passage just read struck him in a directly opposite point of view from that taken by the noble Lords; and he still contended that the failure rose from misapprehension. A conversation ensued, of which it is not material to relate the heads, and which was terminated by the Lord Chancellor's motion for an adjournment.

In the House of Commons, Friday

day June 5th, a report being brought up from the committee of ways and means, Sir J. Newport said, that the house was reduced to the dilemma either of withholding the supplies, or of granting them without a responsible minister. This brought on a conversation relative to the state of the negotiations for a ministry, in which General Gascoyne read an address to the Prince Regent which he intended to move on Monday, expressing their regret for the obstacles which had occurred in forming an administration, and their wish that an arrangement might immediately take place. A debate then ensued, whether the house should continue to sit from day to day, or adjourn to Monday, and the adjournment was at length agreed upon.

On June 8th, the Earl of Liverpool rose in the House of Lords, and stated to their lordships, that the Prince Regent had on that day been pleased to appoint him first commissioner of the treasury, and had given authority for completing the other arrangements for the administration as soon as possible. After some declarations on the part of his lordship and of Lord Moira on their conduct during the late negotiations, Lord Liverpool moved that the house do adjourn.

The Marquis of Wellesley then rose to enter into an explanation of the principles on which he had acted, and of an expression which he had used on a former day. His object, he said, throughout the negotiation had been, that three great principles should form the basis of the proposed arrangement: 1. that the laws affecting

the catholics should be taken into consideration with a view to a conciliatory adjustment: 2. that the war on the peninsula should be carried on with adequate vigour: 3. that the administration should not be confined to one party, but should be formed from all parties of individuals agreeing in the two first principles, and coming to an arrangement on other matters. With regard to his expression of "dreadful personal animosities," he had no hesitation in avowing that he had used it *advisedly*, and with reference to the Earl of Liverpool and his colleagues, for it was from their conduct that the only obstacles arose to his proposed arrangement.

This avowal called up the Earl of Harrowby who demanded of the Marquis proofs of the charge thus insinuated.

Lord Wellesley, in reply, stated the reasons why he had used that expression, and had considered the obstacle as standing on that ground. He had laid before the Lords Grey and Grenville the proposition above mentioned, and had received from them an answer which satisfied him. From the noble Lord opposite, to the same proposition he had received the following answer: "that he had consulted his colleagues, and that they did not think it necessary to consider the principles stated in the proposition, as they were all resolved, after what had recently passed, not to be members of any administration formed by Lord Wellesley." Another noble Lord referred to the same answer, saying that "it was not necessary to enter further into the discussion of a matter of personal feeling." If these noble lords

lords disclaim personal animosity, he would not contradict them in an unparliamentary way; but he thought he had sufficiently proved that he did not deserve the rebuke he had experienced.

Lord Harrowby then, in justification of the feelings of himself and his friends, referred to a statement which appeared in the newspapers, after they had offered to form an administration with the marquis, in which he accused his late colleagues in the cabinet of incapacity to originate any measures for the welfare of the country, and asserted that for the whole of the two years in which he had been in office, perpetual differences of opinion had existed between him and the other members of the cabinet.

Lord Wellesley expressly denied having been a party to that publication, which had given him the most sensible uneasiness. He then went on to other explanations, which as merely personal, it would be useless to particularize. They concluded with a solemn declaration that he knew nothing of the publication alluded to till he saw it in a newspaper.

Earl Grey then took part in the discussion, in order to explain to the house the grounds upon which himself and his noble friend had declined being included in the proposed new administration. After mentioning their conviction that, in the cabinet, the principles and measures to which they were pledged would have been decidedly over-ruled, he said, that in his intercourse with the noble marquis and his noble friend (Lord Moira) he had discovered nothing but an earnest desire to conciliate, and that he was persuaded they were not themselves aware of the secret

management of which they were the instruments.

This insinuation called up Lord Moira; who was much offended with being told that he was a dupe in the negotiation. He asserted that there was not the slightest reservation on the most insignificant point; that the powers given to him were complete and ample, and whenever limited, they were so only by his own sense of what was due to the public; and he called upon the noble earl for a more satisfactory explanation of his meaning.

Earl Grey, in reply, said that he had constantly remarked an unwillingness to come to the point, not on the part of the noble earl or marquis, but on the part of the individual who was to give effect to the negotiation conducted by them. What was the history of these transactions? The noble marquis in the first instance made the proposal to them which he had stated to the House. Was their answer to be termed a rejection? For a whole week they had no communication with him, and the next intimation they received from him was that his commission was suspended. That interval was employed, not to introduce them into the councils of the Prince, but to attempt to connect the noble marquis with some noble lords on the other side of the House to their exclusion. The next step was a renewal of the proposition with full powers, though the noble marquis had previously in vain solicited authority to explain what he imagined to have been misconceived. Lord Moira then, with the frankness which characterizes him, commenced his negotiation, and was met

met with equal liberality. "To avoid any delay that might arise (said Lord G.) I brought forward a difficulty that forcibly struck my mind; and in consequence, the noble earl broke off the intercourse, declaring that he could proceed no further. That he acted conscientiously, I have no doubt; but the impression upon my mind from all the circumstances, was that which I before stated to your lordships."

The Earl of Moira, in his reply, and Lord Grenville, in a subsequent speech, both agreed that this difference was upon an important and constitutional point; but the mystery was not developed in the debate of that day.

It was in the House of Commons that the subject received its final elucidation. On June 7th, Mr. Stuart Wortley brought forward a motion respecting the failure of the negotiations for a new administration. In the preliminary view which he gave of the transaction in the three weeks since the presentation of the address which he had moved, he said, that after the negotiation between Lord Wellesley and Lords Grey and Grenville had come to an end, Lord Moira had received an unconditional power from the Prince Regent to renew it, and had expressed to those lords that all the leading questions of policy would be laid at their feet to be managed at their will. Lord Moira, however, would not agree to what was insisted upon as a preliminary condition—the *regulation of the household*: on which account those noble lords were content to throw away all the great and darling objects of

their political wishes. Their excuse was, a jealousy of the influence which they supposed to exist somewhere, and over which they had no control. Mr. W. made several strictures upon this conduct, which he thought unjustifiable; and then adverted to what followed. Lord Moira resigned his powers; and by that noble lord's advice, the Prince Regent called in once more the assistance of his old servants. With this Mr. W. was not satisfied, because he thought a stronger administration might be formed, and he wished the state might have the advantage of the talents of all parties. He then moved for an address to the Prince Regent, the tenor of which was to express the regret of the house that the expectations held out in his Royal Highness's gracious answer to their former address had not yet been realized, and their earnest entreaties that his Royal Highness would form without delay such an administration as may be entitled to the support of parliament and the confidence of the nation.

We shall not undertake to enter into the details of the succeeding copious debate, the result of which was of no practical importance; but shall only notice the remarkable matters of fact respecting the late negotiations which came to light during its progress.

The matter of the household appointments was introduced by most of the speakers, some censuring, and others defending, the conduct of Lords Grey and Grenville with respect to them. The statement of Lord Yarmouth, as a principal person concerned, was the first thing

thing occurring in the debate that deserved attention on this head. His lordship said, that with respect to the household, it was the intention of himself and his friends to resign the situations which they at present held, previously to the new administration's entering into office. This intention of theirs was well known; they took every means of stating it in quarters whence it had any likelihood of reaching the ears of the persons interested; and in particular they communicated it to a right hon. gentleman who took an active part in the negociation (Mr. Sheridan.) Their intention originated in a wish to save the Prince Regent from that humiliation which he must have experienced from their being turned out of office. He spoke in the name not of one or two, but of all the officers of the household. They all stated to his Royal Highness their wish to resign, and only requested to know, ten minutes before certain gentlemen received the seals, that such a circumstance was to take place, in order that they might make a timely resignation.

Mr. Ponsonby, who rose next, began with affirming, with regard to what had fallen from the noble lord who spoke last, that he now heard it from his lips for the first time in his life, that nothing of that import had ever been stated to himself or Lords Grey and Grenville, and that they never entertained the remotest idea that such an intention existed. He then went into a history of the negociation with those noble lords, in which he referred to certain letters and minutes which will be found among our state papers. He

adverted to the proposed removals in the household, and denied that, as had been affirmed, they were greater than were ever before meditated on a change of administration; and he enlarged upon the necessity of giving strength to a ministry which would have much opposition to encounter, by inspiring a general belief that it possessed the full confidence of the sovereign.

Mr. Canning then rose to give to the house an account of the share which he and Lord Wellesley had had in the negociations in question, and produced several minutes of communications and letters, which we shall also copy. What the hon. gentleman disclosed respecting the part taken by Lord Moira in these transactions was most material, and made a strong impression on the public. After defending the noble lord for objecting to the displacement of the great officers of the household, the right of doing which he did not deny, but thought that a construction would be given to the exercise of it which might occasion great public mischief, Mr. C. said, there was one point connected with this part of Lord Moira's conduct which he was authorized to state particularly. Fearing that he was not entirely understood by the Prince when he received his unrestricted commands to form an administration, on returning to the royal presence, he put this question directly: "Is your Royal Highness prepared, if I should so advise it, to part with all the officers of your household?" The answer was, "I am." "Then (said Lord Moira) your Royal Highness shall not part with one of them."

With

With this very singular circumstance we shall close our account of the parliamentary proceedings on the interesting topic of a change in the administration ; for Mr. Sheridan's subsequent attempt to explain his advice given to Lord Yarmouth against the resignation of the household, scarcely merits a narration. After two amendments of Mr. Wortley's motion had been put and negatived, in one of which there was a division, ayes, 164 ; noes, 289 ; the motion itself was negatived without a division ; and thus the old ministry remained decidedly in possession of the countenance of the House of Commons.

Whilst this political ferment was agitating the different parties of candidates for ministerial power, the examinations in reference to the effects of the orders in council upon the commercial and manufacturing interests in the kingdom were going on with little interruption in both houses of parliament. A vast mass of evidence being at length collected, Mr. Brougham, on June 16th, brought the matter for final decision before the House of Commons. He began his speech with observing, that the question, though of unexampled interest, was one of little intricacy. Its points were few in number, and involved in no obscurity or doubt. At a distance, indeed, there appeared a great mass of details, and the eight or nine hundred folios of evidence, together with the papers and petitions with which the table was covered, might cause the subject to appear vast and complicated ; yet he did not doubt in a short time to convince his hearers that there has seldom been one of a

public nature brought before that house through which the path was shorter, or led to a more obvious decision.

The hon. gentleman then took a general survey of the severe distress which was now pressing upon so many thousands of our industrious fellow-subjects, proved not only by their petitions, but by the numerous schemes and devices which had been resorted to as a remedy for the evils caused by the suppression of their accustomed sources of employment. He reminded the house of the general outline of the inquiry. Above a hundred witnesses had been examined from more than thirty of the great manufacturing and commercial districts. Among all these there was only one single witness who hesitated in admitting the dreadful amount of the present distresses, Birmingham, Sheffield, the clothing trade of Yorkshire, the districts of the cotton trade, all deeply participated in them. He then adverted to the proofs by which this evidence was met on the other side of the house ; and took into consideration the entries in the Custom-house books, and the substitutes and new channels of commerce said to compensate for those that are closed. He next touched upon the topic so often resorted to by the defenders of the orders in council, that of the dignity and honour of the nation, and the necessity of asserting our maritime rights ; and he maintained that every right may safely be waved or abandoned for reasons of expediency, to be resumed when those reasons cease. He lastly, dwelt upon the great importance of the American market to the goods produced in
this

this country, and the danger of accustoming the Americans to rely on their own resources, and manufacture for themselves. After a long and eloquent harangue on these and other connected subjects, Mr. B. concluded with the following motion: "That an humble address be presented to his royal highness the Prince Regent, representing that this house has for some time past been engaged in an inquiry into the present distressed state of the commerce and manufactures of the country, and the effects of the orders in council issued by his Majesty in the years 1807 and 1809; assuring his Royal Highness that this house will at all times support his Royal Highness to the utmost of its power in maintaining those just maritime rights which have essentially contributed to the prosperity and honour of the realm—but beseeching his Royal Highness that he would be graciously pleased to recall or suspend the said orders, and adopt such measures, as may tend to conciliate neutral powers, without sacrificing the rights and dignity of his Majesty's crown."

Mr. Rose acknowledged that a very considerable degree of distress did exist among our manufacturers, but would not admit that it was so much owing to the orders in council as the hon. gentleman had represented. He corrected several statements made by him, and showed that the commerce of France had suffered in much greater proportion from the effects of these orders. Our shipping interest, he asserted, had been benefitted by them, and if they were repealed, the Americans would come in for a large share of our carrying trade, especially to South America.

Upon the whole, he would not deny that our manufacturers were likely to obtain some relief from the repeal, but government was placed between difficulties on both sides, and it was their duty to adopt the measures which would be least detrimental. In his opinion, the preponderance of argument led to the conclusion that the repeal of the orders would be more prejudicial than their continuance. The great body of merchants held the same opinion. Four-fifths of those of Glasgow had petitioned in support of the orders; those of Bristol were unanimous in their favour; and so were a majority of those of Liverpool: there was no petition from London against them, whilst a great number of London merchants had petitioned in their favour.

Mr. Baring, after a warm eulogy of the enlightened view of the subject taken by the hon. mover, said that the house had two questions to decide: 1. whether these distresses were attributable to the orders in council? 2. whether any benefits had arisen from them in any other quarter to compensate for these calamities? Mr. B. made a number of particular observations relative to these two points; and he concluded with giving it as his conviction, that by our orders in council we lost the most substantial commercial advantages for an object we could never obtain—that of forcing our trade with the continent.

Lord Castlereagh began with lamenting the precipitation of the hon. gentleman in bringing forward this motion, and pressing to a hasty discussion a question than which none more vital ever came before

before the consideration of parliament. He deprecated any interference on the part of the house in a question in which commercial considerations were mixed with those of maritime right, and, pending a delicate negotiation, dictating to the executive government the course it ought to pursue. After various observations in defence of the policy and justice of the orders in council, and in answer to some of the mover's statements, the noble lord came to the point by saying, that Great Britain would consent to suspend her orders in council, provided America would suspend her non-importation act. The experiment might then be tried of the practicability of restoring things to their ancient system. Under these circumstances he trusted that the house would not consent to the address—and he moved the order of the day.

Mr. Whitbread then begged the noble lord to say precisely what he proposed to do with respect to America.

Lord Castlereagh said, that he meant that a proposition should be made to the American government to suspend immediately the orders in council, on condition that they would suspend their non-importation act.

Mr. Whitbread was of opinion that if this proposition were to be sent out to America, and it was expected that the house and country should wait till they received an answer, it was the greatest delusion that ever had been attempted; and he proceeded to express in strong terms the urgency of the distress felt by the manufacturers, and the necessity of giving the intended relief without delay. Mr.

Ponsonby also spoke against the measure proposed, as calculated to create delay.

Lord Castlereagh, in further explanation, said that it was never meant that there should be any delay in suspending the orders in council: the intention was that they should be suspended for a definite time, and that this circumstance should be communicated to the American government, for the double purpose of ascertaining whether it would in consequence abrogate its non-importation act; and also that it might apply to France to return to the ancient system of belligerents.

Mr. Wilberforce objected to the mode proposed by the noble lord, because it shewed an unwillingness to do that which, in fact, he intended to do.

Mr. Canning, in giving a kind of middle opinion on the subject, contended that revocation was better than suspension.

Mr. Brougham, after congratulating the house on the prospect of speedily getting rid of these orders, hoped that the noble lord would withdraw his motion for proceeding to the orders of the day, and explain more distinctly what was the exact intention of government.

The final result was, that Mr. B. and Lord Castlereagh severally withdrew their motions on the understanding that an official instrument on the subject should appear in the next Gazette.

It was a remarkable circumstance in this debate, that Mr. Stephens, the most strenuous defender and promoter of the orders in council, was not present: a certain proof that ministers were already

ready prepared to make the sacrifice which the voice of the country rendered inevitable.

On June 23rd, there appeared in the Gazette a declaration from the Prince Regent, absolutely and unequivocally revoking the orders in council as far as they regarded American vessels; with the proviso, that if after the notification of this revocation by our minister in America, the government of the United States do not revoke their interdictory acts against British commerce, the same, after due notice, shall be null and of no effect.

Mr. Brougham, on this occurrence, declared the full satisfaction of himself and his friends with the frank and manly conduct of go-

vernment in the mode it had adopted; and both sides of the house seemed happy in the prospect of the amicable intercourse which this proceeding would restore between the two countries. We cannot, however, refrain from expressing our astonishment, that during the debates there appeared so little consciousness that the question of repealing or continuing the orders in council, was a real question of peace or war with America; and that deferring the decision so long, was rendering it altogether unimportant. In fact, before the news of the repeal reached the United States, *they were actually at war with Great Britain!*

CHAPTER XI.

The Budget.

ON June 17th, the house having resolved itself into a committee of Ways and Means,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, (the right hon. Nicholas Vansittart), declared that he could not rise to perform the duty which that day imposed upon him, without feeling sensations unusually painful at the recollection of the singular situation in which he was placed, and the remembrance of the lamented individual whom he that day represented. Considering in whose place he stood, whose papers he held in his hands, and whose plans he was about to state to the House, he felt rather that he was executing the last of the official duties of his lamented friend, than the first of his own. Happy should he have thought himself if he could, at the close of the day, resign those papers again into his hands, after supplying his place upon a mere occasional absence; but happier still if he could inherit his talents and virtues, and close a life of public service with the same testimonies of public approbation, and equal consciousness of unblemished integrity.

Under these peculiar circumstances, the committee would not expect him to do more, than to state as briefly as possible, what, with the exception of a few particulars, which he would point out

when he came to them, was the intended budget of their departed friend.

He should, in the first instance, recapitulate the charges of the present year, and then proceed to the statement of the Ways and Means by which it was proposed that those charges should be defrayed.

The whole amount of the supplies was already within the knowledge of the committee, having, excepting a few inconsiderable votes for miscellaneous services, been agreed to by the house. It certainly was an enormous, he might even say, a terrible extent of charge; but he had the consolation to reflect that, great as it was, the resources of the country were still equal to support it.

On a reference to the papers on the table, it would appear that, for the navy, exclusive of ordnance for the sea service, the sum voted was 19,702,399*l.*;—for the army, including barracks and commissariat, and the military service of Ireland, 17,756,160*l.*;—an additional vote of 90,000*l.* for the barrack department had been agreed to by the house; but the treasury had determined to strike off this sum, and diminish the grant in the appropriation act by that amount. This diminution of charge proceeded from a resolution to postpone

pone the execution of the projected barracks at Mary-le-bone park, and at Bristol and Liverpool. He begged to be distinctly understood on this part of the subject; he by no means meant to insinuate any disapprobation of the plan for the erection of those barracks, on the contrary he thought it probable that a considerable part at least of the plans which had been sanctioned by the votes of the House would be ultimately carried into effect; but his noble friend at the head of the treasury board and he had not sufficiently considered the subject to be able to give a decided opinion upon it, and they had determined not to make themselves responsible for works of great magnitude, and of no immediate necessity, without full consideration.

The extraordinaries of the army incurred last year, beyond the sum granted, amounted to 2,300,000*l.* besides which there had been voted for the present year 5,000,000*l.* for Great Britain, and 200,000*l.* for Ireland.

For the ordnance, including Ireland, 5,279,897*l.*

The miscellaneous services, including a few sums not yet proposed to parliament, and 400,000*l.* for the Irish permanent grants, might be taken at 2,350,000*l.*

It was also intended to propose a vote of credit of 3,000,000*l.* for Great Britain, and 200,000*l.* for Ireland. The subsidies granted in the present year were nearly the same as those of the last, being for Sicily 400,000*l.* and for Portugal 2,000,000*l.*

These several items would therefore stand as follows :

SUPPLIES, 1812.		£.
Navy, exclusive of Ordnance Sea service.....	19,702,399	
Army, including Barracks, and Commissariat	14,577,698	} 17,756,160
Ditto, Ireland	3,178,462	
Extraordinaries,		
England	5,000,000	} 5,200,000
Ireland	200,000	
Unprovided ditto last year	2,300,000	
Ordnance, including Ireland	5,279,897	
Miscellaneous (including 400,000 <i>l.</i> Irish Permanent Grants)	2,350,000	
Vote of Credit,		
England	3,000,000	} 3,200,000
Ireland	200,000	
Sicily	400,000	
Portugal	2,000,000	
Total joint charge		58,188,456

To these sums must be added 100,292*l.* for repayment of so much of the Loyalty Loan as had been

claimed in the proper form by the holders, and 1,700,000*l.* voted for interest on exchequer bills, being equally

equal to the amount actually paid on that account in the preceding year; it was also proposed that the amount of exchequer bills to be issued on the aids of the next year should be less by 2,387,600*l.* than those which had been circulated in the year preceding. He felt himself bound to state that this arrangement, which formed part of the intended plan of his late right hon. friend, had been suggested to him by the directors of the Bank of England, who thought that the circulation of exchequer bills had been carried to too great an extent; and this suggestion sufficiently proved that the directors of the Bank were not actuated by that desire which was so often and so unjustly attributed to them, of increasing the gains of their

corporation by an unlimited extent of paper currency.

The three items which he had last named, amounting to 4,187,892*l.* constituted the separate charge of Great Britain, and when added to the sum of 58,188,456*l.* which was the total of the supplies he had before stated, made the general amount of 62,376,348*l.* From this was to be deducted the Irish proportion of joint charge, amounting to 6,845,700*l.* and the Irish proportion of the civil list and charges on the consolidated fund, being about 180,000*l.* and making together 7,025,700*l.*

The result was, that the total of the supplies to be provided for by Great Britain, was 55,350,648*l.*

£.

Total joint charge as above.....58,188,456

SEPARATE CHARGE.

Loyalty loan100,292

Interest on ex-

chequer bills....1,700,000

1,800,292

Add amount of exchequer bills charged on aids 1812, outstanding, which it is not intended to replace by the issue of new bills.....

2,387,600

4,187,892

Total supplies 62,376,348

Deduct Irish proportion of 58,188,456*l.*

6,845,700

Ditto civil list, and other charges

180,000

7,025,700

Total on account of England.....55,350,648

The way in which he proposed to meet this charge, enormous as it appeared to be, was as follows.

The annual duties were taken as usual, at 3,000,000*l.*; the surplus of the consolidated fund, estimated on grounds which he should presently explain, 3,600,000*l.*; the war taxes, which he should also explain, might, including the property tax, be taken at 20,400,000*l.*; the lottery 300,000*l.*; the loan in the 5 per cent. annuities, contributed by the subscribers of exchequer bills in the spring of the present year, 6,789,625*l.*; exchequer bills intended to be issued on the vote of credit, 3,000,000*l.*; and he should observe, that this last sum would make no addition to the unfunded debt, an equal sum granted on the vote of credit of the last year, having been funded and not replaced by any fresh issue; the old naval stores, which since the recommendation of the committee on public expenditure, had been carried to the public account, would produce 441,218*l.*

The next item would be the

surplus of ways and means, of last year, amounting to 2,209,626*l.*; but it would be necessary for him shortly to explain in what manner this surplus arose. Considerable sums had been granted in the year 1811 in exchequer bills charged upon the aids of that year. Of these, together with other exchequer bills, about 5,500,000*l.* had been funded in the spring, and a part of the aids of the year 1811, which had been appropriated to the repayment of these bills, had been thus set free and was applicable to the service of the present year, amounting, after the deduction of a small deficiency of ways and means of 1811, which existed previously to such funding, as stated in the disposition paper before the house, to the sum he had mentioned, of 2,209,626*l.*

The only article of ways and means, which it remained for him to enumerate, was the loan contracted on the preceding day of 15,650,000*l.*

The various items would, therefore, stand as follows :

WAYS AND MEANS.

	£.
Annual duties	3,000,000
Surplus consolidated fund	3,600,000
War taxes	20,400,000
Lottery	300,000
Loan by subscribers of exchequer bills funded	6,789,625
Vote of credit	3,000,000
Naval stores	441,218
Surplus ways and means 1811, created by funding part of the exchequer bills charged on the aids of that year.....	2,209,626
Loan	15,650,000

55,390,469

The

The ways and means exceeded the supplies about 40,000*l*.

He would now return to the mode in which the amount of the surplus of the consolidated fund, and of the war taxes, had been calculated.

The surplus of the consolidated fund had been estimated upon the average produce of the principal branches of the revenue in the last three years, adding thereto so much as was necessary to complete the estimate of the yearly receipt of the permanent duties imposed in the last session. The average produce of the customs in that period, with the addition he had mentioned, was 5,106,000*l*. ; of the excise, 18,188,000*l*. ; of the assessed taxes, 5,999,000*l*. ; of the stamps, 5,191,000*l*. ; and of the post office, 1,240,000*l*. To these principal branches of revenue were to be added other funds of a less considerable, but generally of a less fluctuating nature. Of these the principal was the land tax remaining unredeemed, amounting to 1,035,000*l*. ; there were also the duty on pensions and personal estates, which would produce 141,000*l*. ; the surplus of exchequer fees about 60,000*l*. ; the crown lands about 50,000*l*. ; and some other small branches of revenue, producing together about 246,000*l*. ; and making, together with the greater branches of revenue before stated, in the whole, 37,262,000*l*. ; to which adding 2,706,000*l*. of war taxes appropriated to the consolidated fund, the total income of that fund would be 39,958,000*l*. ; from which deducting the charge as it stood previously to the loans of the present year amounting to 34,504,000*l*. there would remain

a gross surplus of 5,454,000*l*. From this was first to be deducted the additional charge created by the loans of the present year, amounting to 1,906,000*l*. ; but against this charge should be set the expected produce of the taxes of the present year, which, to the 5th of April, 1813, might be estimated at 951,500*l*., deducting which sum, there would remain 954,500*l*. to be deducted from the surplus he had stated of 5,454,000*l*. leaving a net surplus of 4,499,500*l*. Before this sum could be applied to the service of the year, the sum of 927,000*l*. which still remained due upon the grant of the preceding year, must, however, be made good. The remainder, which would be applicable to the service of the present year, would therefore be 3,572,500*l*. He should accordingly propose a vote of 3,600,000*l*. as being the nearest round number.

He was aware that it might probably be thought unfair to estimate the produce of the revenue for the present year, upon the average of the three last, as it might be stated that the revenue was gradually declining. This, however, upon an examination of the accounts, would not appear to be the fact. The total produce of all the duties in the quarter ending the 5th of July, 1811, fell considerably short, even to the amount of 760,000*l*. of the quarter ending the 5th of July, 1810. The quarter ending the 10th of October, 1811, fell short, by 469,000*l*. of the corresponding quarter in 1810 ; but the quarter ending the 5th of January, 1812, exceeded the quarter ending the 5th of January, 1811, by 31,000*l*. ; and the quarter ending the 5th

of April, 1812, exceeded the corresponding quarter in 1811, by no less than 463,000*l.* a sum much surpassing any increase which the new duties could have occasioned in that quarter, and which sufficiently proved that the revenue was, upon the whole, in an improving state.

He had formed the estimate of the war taxes, in a similar manner, upon the average of the three years, ending the 5th of April, 1812. The war duties of customs and excise amounted, upon such an average, to 9,502,965*l.* to which were to be added 38,600*l.* for the further expected produce of the duties imposed in the last year, and 500,000*l.* which remained due from the East India Company, on account of tea duties, making, in the whole, of custom and excise duties, 10,041,565*l.* Of the property tax there remained due on the 5th of April, 1812, on the assessments of preceding years, 8,515,000*l.* to which was to be added the estimated assessment of the present year, which, supposing it to be equal to the assessment of the last year, would be 12,200,000*l.* making together, 20,715,000*l.* From this was to be deducted the sum still remaining due to make good the grant on the war taxes for 1811, being 7,660,000*l.*; which would leave, for the service of the present year, 13,055,000*l.* and adding that sum to the amount of customs and excise, there would be a total of war taxes of 23,096,000*l.* From this was to be taken 2,706,000*l.* appropriated to the charge of various loans, which would leave for the ways and means of the present year, 20,390,000*l.* a sum ap-

proaching very nearly to that of 20,400,000*l.* which he proposed to vote.

It now remained that he should explain the conditions of the loan which had been contracted, and he had to regret that the present situation of the country did not enable him to congratulate the house on so advantageous a bargain as some which had of late years been stated to them. The sum raised on account of Great Britain by the loan concluded the preceding day, was 15,650,000*l.* The capital created on account of this sum was 27,544,000*l.* 3. per cent. stock. The amount of interest 826,320*l.* and of sinking fund and management 283,500*l.* making in all a charge of 1,110,023*l.* The rate of interest to the subscribers would be 5*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* per cent. and the total charge to the public 7*l.* 1*s.* 10½*d.* This might appear a high rate of interest, but it should be remembered, that, including the former loan in the 5*l.* per cents. and the exchequer bills funded, the sum borrowed in the present year had rarely been equalled, and he believed so large a sum had never been raised on better terms in any other period of war. Indeed, he feared that the contractors for the loan had more reason to complain of having been hardly dealt by than the public. He should feel happy if the bargain should hereafter prove more profitable to them than it had hitherto promised. Such an improvement of the public credit would be hailed with the greatest satisfaction by his Majesty's ministers.

He must now revert to the former loan, and the funding of exchequer bills: the terms of which

which, having been explained at the proper season by his predecessor, he should only recapitulate with a view of pointing out the amount of charge for which it would be his duty to provide. The exchequer bills funded and the 5*l.* per cent. loan, amounted together to 12,221,325*l.* making in 5*l.* per cent stock, a capital of 13,199,031*l.* the interest of which was 659,951*l.* and the sinking fund 131,990*l.* making together with the charge for management 795,901*l.* The rate of interest on this sum was 5*l.* 8*s.* and the total charge 6*l.* 10*s.* 2*½d.* per cent. The charge to the public, on the whole money transactions of the year, so far as they respected the funded debt, was 6*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* per cent and the total amount to be provided for 1,905,924*l.*

He now came to a most important, but certainly the most painful part of his duty; that of proposing taxes by which so large a sum was to be defrayed. It was the more unpleasant to him, as he had felt it necessary, in this part of the arrangement, to make a considerable deviation from the plan of his predecessor. Such a task afforded only an option of difficulties and inconveniences, and he could, at best, only hope that he had selected such as were least objectionable.

The first article he had to propose was indeed one which appeared to him liable to very little objection, for it was in fact a tax which would fall upon nobody (a laugh). Gentlemen might smile, but if it was in other respects unobjectionable, he trusted it would not be censured on that account. His proposition was, to

discontinue the bounty on the exportation of printed goods. This bounty had grown from a small charge to a very large one, amounting upon an average of the last three years, to the sum of 308,000*l.* a circumstance in one respect highly satisfactory, as it shewed the great increase which had taken place in the exportation of those goods, but which also shewed at once that the necessity of granting a bounty to encourage this exportation had ceased, and that a considerable resource might be derived from its suppression. The printed goods in question, from the improvement of the manufactures and the extensive use of machinery, could now be afforded much cheaper without the bounty, than they used formerly to be, even with its assistance.

The present state of the world with respect to commerce was peculiarly favourable to the discontinuance of the bounty system. Wherever British manufactures were permitted to enter, their superiority was universally acknowledged; where they did not find their way, it was not on account of their dearth or inferior quality, but because they were excluded by rigorous prohibitions. Whenever these might cease, the country might again expect to see the British manufactures spreading themselves over the continent without the assistance of bounties. That which it was now proposed to discontinue, amounted to no more than one halfpenny a yard on printed goods of the lowest quality, and three halfpence a yard on the highest; an amount much within the ordinary fluctuations of price from accidental

accidental causes, and the loss of which could not operate as any discouragement to trade. To him, therefore, this proposition appeared free from all reasonable objection. His task would have been easy if he could have flattered himself that what he had still to propose was equally unobjectionable; but of the remainder of his plan he could only, as he had said before, indulge the hope that, in the choice of evils, he had selected the least.

To the first which he had to propose he felt that it might be reasonably objected that it would, in a certain degree, affect the comforts of the poor; he hoped, however, the burden would be as small as could be expected from a tax producing a considerable increase of revenue. The article to which he alluded was that of tanned hides and skins. That it would, in some degree, fall on the poor, by affecting the necessary article of their shoes he had already admitted, but in other respects it appeared to him a very fit object of taxation. In the long list of our taxes it was almost the only one on which no additional duty had been laid for a great number of years. The present duties had been imposed so long ago as the years 1709, and 1711, and when he now proposed, after the lapse of a whole century, to double them, he could not consider himself as laying upon the people of this country a heavier burden than their ancestors had borne with reference to the general enhancement of prices, and the proportions they bore to the earnings and incomes of individuals. Another recommendation of this

tax on leather, on the present occasion, was the cheap and plentiful supply of the raw material which had, of late years, been introduced from South America. This supply had been estimated as equal to one-third of the whole manufacture, and had occasioned a very considerable increase of it, both for home consumption and for exportation. Calculating upon an average of the produce of the present duty for the last three years, the additional duty may be expected to produce 325,000*l.* a year.

The next article which he should propose was also an excise duty. It was that of glass. This duty had been considerably increased in the year 1805, but after an extensive inquiry among the manufacturers, Mr. Perceval had been convinced that an additional tax equal to the present, would not be injurious to the trade. It was not indeed probable that the consumption of this country would be lessened by the increase of price which this duty would occasion, as glass was an article very little in use among the lower classes of society; and this was, so far as he could understand, the opinion of the manufacturers themselves, provided they were protected against foreign competition, by sufficient duties on importation, and by proper drawbacks on exportation. The produce of this tax, calculating, as before on the average of the last three years, would be 328,000*l.*

The next proposition which he wished to make to the committee was, to add a duty, equivalent to ten per cent on those now existing, on tobacco, an article of extensive

extensive, yet of luxurious rather than necessary use, and one which afforded the best criterion of its ability to bear an additional tax, namely, that the consumption of it went on progressively increasing under the present duties. He did not see any reason to believe that this proposed addition would either diminish the consumption or materially increase the frauds upon this article; and estimating the produce on an average similar to those of the former articles, he should take it at 107,000*l*.

His next proposition would be not for a tax absolutely new, but for a certain regulation of the duty on property sold by auction. It was well known to the committee that estates or other kinds of property were frequently put up to auction; not for the purpose of a fair sale, but of ascertaining their value with a view to a private bargain. They were then bought in, by which the duty was avoided; and afterwards disposed of by private contract, at a price founded upon the biddings which had taken place. It was his wish, as it certainly had been the intention of the legislature, that all persons who obtained the benefit of the competition arising in a public sale, should be subject to the charge which had been imposed upon that advantage. It was, therefore, his intention to propose that property put up to auction should be charged with the duty, whether actually sold or bought in; but that, in case it should appear, at the end of twelve months, to continue to belong to its original owner; the duty should be repaid. In property of large amount it might indeed be reason-

able that the owner should, instead of paying down the duty in the first instance, be permitted to give security for it, and regulations to this effect might be introduced in the bill. It was also well known that many articles, particularly imported merchandize, were exempted from the duty, although sold by public auction. He understood it was a common practice to mingle in sales such privileged goods with those which were not privileged; by which means frauds on the revenue were frequently practised. He should therefore propose that when any goods liable to duty were introduced into a sale of goods which were exempted from it, the whole should be immediately rendered chargeable with the duty. The committee were aware that, from the nature of the case, nothing like an accurate estimate could be formed of the produce of these regulations. On a due consideration of all the circumstances of the case, Mr. Perceval had thought that it would not be overstated at 100,000*l*. and he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) saw no reason to form a different opinion.

The articles which he had hitherto enumerated, except the bounty on printed goods, were all duties of excise. The next branch of the revenue to which he should resort, was one which he should have been glad to avoid, if the largeness of the total sum to be raised had not rendered it necessary to diffuse the burden as extensively as possible. It was on the postage of letters.—He should recommend an addition of a penny on every single letter carried more than twenty miles, whether from
the

the metropolis or the provincial post offices. He certainly regretted the necessity of increasing this tax, which operated, as a considerable charge on commercial correspondence, yet, when he considered the satisfaction and convenience derived from the establishment of the post-office, and the progressive increase of correspondence throughout the country, he really believed that he could suggest no duty which, on the whole, would be paid with less reluctance. This proposed increase might be estimated, according to the present extent of correspondence, at 220,000*l*.

All the articles which he had hitherto submitted to the consideration of the committee, were such as had been selected by his late right hon. friend, and would have formed part of the plan which he would have proposed to parliament. The remainder of the budget would, according to his intention, have been supplied by a tax on private brewing. The committee would recollect that, in the year 1806, when a noble lord, now a member of the other house (the Marquis of Lansdowne) held the office which he had now the honour to fill, that noble lord had suggested a similar tax, which was strongly opposed, principally on the ground of its bringing private families under the jurisdiction of the excise; an objection, the full force of which he should have admitted, if the means had not been afforded of avoiding that jurisdiction by an easy commutation, upon the principle of the assessed taxes. The plan of his late right hon. friend was, indeed, free from the objection which he had stated, as

it had no reference to the excise, but proceeded upon the principle of a rate, according to the number of each family; to the proposition so modified, he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) still, however, thought he saw an insuperable objection. In the first place, he had reason to believe that the produce of the intended duty, taken at the rate of five shillings a head, which he understood to be the proposed assessment, had been greatly miscalculated, and that, instead of 500,000*l*. which was the sum required, it would only produce 250,000*l* or at the most 300,000*l*. But he felt a still stronger objection to the tax in its unequal operation on the poorer classes. A poor man would only brew the exact quantity required for the consumption of his family, calculated upon the most frugal rate; while a rich man would provide for the entertainments of many visitors, and for the much more liberal consumption of his household. The consequence, therefore, would be, that the tax being taken at an equal rate upon each person in the family, the poor man would pay upon each barrel of a much inferior liquor, a higher rate of duty than the rich would be charged with, for the best which could be prepared.

Upon the whole therefore, he had judged it advisable to abandon this tax, and to propose a moderate addition on the scale of several of the assessed taxes. He knew that a proposition for the increase of the assessed taxes could not fail to excite some alarm; but that branch of the revenue comprehended duties of very different kinds.

kinds. The duties upon houses and windows, in particular, he considered as the most burdensome to which the country was exposed, and to those duties he proposed to add nothing. But there were others which had an operation similar to that of sumptuary laws, and which, arising out of a voluntary expenditure, might admit of a reasonable increase, without much objection.—In this class he included the duties on men-servants, carriages, horses, dogs, and the sports of the field; and these would be the objects of his intended increase of duties. As the proposed scale would in a few days be printed and in every gentleman's hands, he should not take up the time of the committee by a minute detail; but point out the leading article in each class, by which a judgment might be formed. The existing duty on a person keeping one male servant was 2*l.* 4*s.* He proposed to add four shillings, making the duty 2*l.* 8*s.* On occasional gardeners he should propose a similar duty of four shillings. Mercantile agents or riders to commercial houses now pay 1*l.* 8*s.* He proposed that they should pay 2*l.* On stewards and overseers, who had hitherto escaped notice, he should propose a similar rate of 2*l.* Porters employed by persons in trade now paid a duty of 1*l.* 4*s.* He proposed that they should pay 2*l.* and that the same rate should take place with respect to stage coachmen, and other drivers of carriages, except domestic servants and those engaged in husbandry. On occasional waiters, whether employed at taverns or at private houses, he should propose a duty

of 1*l.* and this would remove a difficulty which he knew existed in the minds of many persons with respect to the propriety of including individuals of the last class, who perhaps had been only employed for a small number of days in the year, as servants in their general returns to the tax office.

He should however propose that this duty should not attach on any attendant hired less than six times in the year, to avoid too great a pressure upon any occasional extraordinary hospitality.—Servants employed principally in agriculture, but sometimes for domestic purposes, now paid a duty of six shillings. He proposed that, like the occasional gardeners, they should pay four more. The whole amount of the increased duties on male servants he calculated at 155,000*l.*

He would proceed to the consideration of the duty on carriages. A single four wheeled carriage now paid 11*l.* 5*s.* He proposed that it should pay 12*l.* and so in proportion to the present progressive scale, for a larger number. The produce of this increase, and of a proportionate increase on two-wheeled carriages would be 39,000*l.*—Horses kept for pleasure now paid a duty of 2*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* He proposed an addition of 4*s.* making a duty of 2*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

He was next bound to state that he deemed it necessary to increase the duty upon horses employed in husbandry by 3*s.* 6*d.* each horse, and though he was aware that many objections were entertained to the principle of the tax, he thought the proposed additional rate could hardly be complained of.

of. Upon horses employed for purposes of trade, which were generally of greater value, and productive of greater profit to their employer, he should propose an additional duty of 10s. Taken together, these additional duties may be estimated at 269,000*l*.

It was his intention to propose an increase in the same proportion, in the duty on dogs, except that, in consequence of recommendations which he had received from various quarters, he should propose a higher duty on greyhounds, than on other dogs. The reasons for this recommendation were best known to sportsmen, and therefore many gentlemen in the house were better able to judge of it than himself, but it was obvious that the superior va-

lue of greyhounds, and the species of amusement which they afforded, might be considered as a sufficient reason for an augmented rate of duty. The increase of the tax on dogs might be estimated at 31,000*l*.

The last increase of assessed taxes which it was his intention to propose was on certificates to game-keepers, namely, four shillings for game-keepers, who were also assessed as servants, and 10s. 6*d*. for persons who were not so assessed. This, he thought would raise 21,000*l*.

The amount of these augmentations of the assessed taxes, he should, therefore, calculate at 515,000*l*.; and the whole of the proposed duties would stand as follows :

	£
Customs.—By discontinuing, the bounty on Printed Goods exported, taken on average of last 3 years	308,000
Excise.—Hides and skins; by doubling the existing duties, on average of the last three years	325,000
Glass .....ditto.....ditto.....	328,000
Tobacco; one-tenth in addition to all the existing duties, on a like average	107,000
Auctions, Regulations, estimated to produce	100,000
Post-Office.—Addition of one penny on all Letters carried more than 20 miles, estimated to produce	220,000
Assessed Taxes.—Male Servants....	155,000
Carriages	89,000
Horses and Dealers	269,000
Dogs	31,000
Game Certificates	21,000—515,000
	1,903,000

He was sure that it must be very satisfactory to the house and the public that, after the country had so often seemed to be upon

the very point of having exhausted its resources, and after it had been so often stated that no fit subject for taxation remained, it still ap-
peared

peared practicable to provide with so little pressure on the people, and especially on the lower classes of the community, so large a sum as that of which he had just completed the details. It had been his intention, if the attention of the house had not been so completely exhausted, and if he had not himself laboured under an indisposition which made it painful to him to address them, to offer some general observations on the financial situation of the country; but under these circumstances, and having performed that part of his duty which he felt to be strictly necessary, he should now refrain from trespassing longer on their patience, and conclude by moving his first resolution.

Mr. Huskisson said, that in the present circumstances of the country, he was decidedly of opinion that a more judicious selection of objects could not have been made than that of his right hon. friend; and he doubted not that when the plan should have undergone some modification in its passage through the house, it would be as acceptable as any measure of the kind in the present state of the resources of the country. He then begged leave to recal to the attention of the committee some observations which he had made three sessions ago, and to apply some of the facts which subsequent experience had furnished in confirmation of his former reasonings. He had then stated as a general principle, that the only secure means to which the country could look for enabling it to support its arduous struggle was, the adoption of every measure for retrenching

its expenditure, and equalizing it with its income. What had recent changes and events tended to establish? In 1810 the amount of debt funded was upwards of 16 millions, in 1811; 19½ millions; in 1812, 27,870,000*l*. The 3 per cent consols, were at those three periods 70, 65, and 56; and the charge of the loan had risen from 6*l*. 4*s*. to 7*l*. 4*s*. The hon. gentleman then considered some of the resources to which recourse had been had for meeting the increased expenses, and shewed their want of permanency. He spoke of the alarming depression of the public credit, and the unfavourable terms of the last loan, and said that he could not in too strong terms point out the impolicy of raising money at such a disadvantageous rate of interest, and that it would be much better to obtain it by general taxes. He then adverted to some extraneous circumstances which had operated in this depression, the most important of which was the extent to which it had been thought necessary to support the credit of Ireland by the sacrifice of our own; and he pointed out several things relative to the revenue of that country which demanded investigation. He concluded with expressing his conviction that the stamina of the nation were still unimpaired, and that although further and great sacrifices might be necessary to carry us through our difficulties, yet the public spirit of the people was such that they would not be backward to make them.

The allusion to the revenues of Ireland called up some of the Irish

Irish members, who made various observations on the subject. The several resolutions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer were then put, and agreed to.

Irish Budget. Mr. Wellesley Pole said, that he rose for the purpose of calling the attention of the committee to the Ways and Means of Ireland, which he would endeavour to do as shortly as possible at that late hour. In the first instance the supply was, 1,794,000*l.* being the contribution of 1811, there was due of the quota of 1812, 7,611,000*l.* Irish currency and the interest on the debt of Ireland, up to the 5th of last January, was 4,496,000*l.* making a total of 13,902,000*l.* He should propose to meet this, in the first instance, the surplus of the consolidated fund, amounting to 2,775,000*l.* He next proposed to take the revenue of the current year, which he took at 4,300,000*l.* The nett revenue of the last year 4,170,000*l.* The repeal of the bounty on retail spirits 40,000*l.* The regulation of tobacco duties &c. 417,000*l.* The profit on the lottery he calculated at 150,000*l.* the payment of seamen's wages 150,000*l.*—The loan 1,500,000*l.* and 50,000*l.* by treasury bills; making 2,000,000*l.*; and a total of 13,982,000*l.* being an exceeding of 82,000*l.* It was now necessary for him to state the mode of providing for the interest of the loans and the sinking fund, which amounted to 449,000*l.* The loan had been raised by 5 per cent treasury bills, and the manner of providing for it was by a tax, which had been rather ludicrously alluded to by an hon. gentleman—he meant by a tax on spirits, which

he trusted would be found by its produce to cover the loan. He would state to the committee the grounds on which this tax would cover every thing. It would be recollected that a tax had been levied on Irish spirits, amounting to 2*s.* 6*d.* a gallon, which, being doubled, now produced 5*s.* British on the gallon. The consumption of spirits in Ireland, for the year ending on the 5th January, 1812, had been 655,000 gallons; the quantity exported 792,000 gallons. The consumption had been diminished one fifth by the operation of the duty, leaving 461,000 gallons, which at the rate of 5*s.* 5*d.* Irish currency, produced 1,248,000*l.* being 260,000*l.* more than last year. He was aware that it might be said, that this statement would not hold good, as distillation was stopped in Ireland; but the committee would recollect, that, previous to the levying of the duty, another measure had been taken to prevent the exportation of spirits, by which a considerable stock remained on hand, the duty on which according to the best information he could procure, would amount to 270,000*l.*; so that there was actually 270,000*l.* of the 449,000*l.* Taking then the stock in hand at the above sum, he had to state, the hope of increase from the power granted by the act to the Irish government, to open the distilleries on the 1st of November, in the event of a good harvest: and according to the best information, there never was a more abundant promise; so that it was almost certain that the distilleries would be opened at the time contemplated in the act, namely, the 1st of November. Having stated thus

thus much, he was not inclined to add any more, but was prepared to answer any question put to him. He, however, could not sit down without claiming permission to offer a few observations on what had fallen from the right hon. baronet, and his hon. friend. He denied that because the revenue had not covered all the debts since the Union, that it necessarily followed that disorder and corruption prevailed through the whole system. He would be glad on all these occasions, to come to close quarters with the right hon. baronet, when he had no doubt of being able to refute those vague and general attacks, which he so frequently indulged in. The taxes which had failed did so from unavoidable causes, which ought to be gone fairly into; but the right hon. baronet every session was prepared with a string of accusations, which he threw out against his right hon. friend (Mr. Foster) during his absence.

Sir John Newport rose to repel the charge in the most direct and positive terms. He had frequently made those observations, which he felt it his duty to make, in the presence of the right hon. gentleman, and would not suffer himself to be vilified.

Mr. Pole said, that he only meant to observe that it had been the constant practice of the right hon. baronet to reiterate those charges which had been already decided on, while he overlooked the improvements which had been made. There was not any branch of the revenue that had not been inquired into, and probed to the quick. It was maligning the officers of the Irish government to

say they had not done their duty. The revenue of Ireland had been increased in the last year. In 1811, the customs were collected at 25*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* and in the present year at 20*l.* 18*s.* The revenue of the post office was collected at 21*l.* per cent. He was sorry to say they were collected at a greater rate than he wished; but this country paid nearly the same. Some irregularities had taken place with a distiller in Limerick, and four revenue officers there were dismissed from their situations. Some improper transactions took place in the stamp-office, which caused eleven of the persons in situations to be discharged. It was the intention of the Irish government to consolidate the stamp-office. There was not the same facility in collecting taxes as in England. They ought not to tax Ireland as this country—she was shooting, and, if not oppressed, would come to maturity, and be able to bear all the burthens in proportion with her sister isle. Any person who proposed that an income tax should be laid on in Ireland, must either not know any thing of that country or be a maniac. He concluded with moving, “That towards raising the supply to be granted to his Majesty, a sum, not exceeding 500,000*l.* be granted to be raised in the issue of treasury bills.”

The Resolutions were then agreed to, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

Of the taxes proposed by Mr. Vansittart, that principally opposed in parliament was the additional duty on leather. When the motion was made, June 26th, for bringing up the report of the
excise

excise duty, Mr. Brougham rose to state his objections not to the amount, but to the nature, of this tax. He showed by calculation in what degree it would press upon husbandry, and upon the lower classes in society, who, by their greater consumption of leather for shoes than persons in the superior ranks, would have to bear the chief burden of this impost.

Lord Althorpe spoke to the same purpose, and moved, as an amendment, "that the bill be taken into consideration on this day six months."

Sir Thomas Turton said that he had been instructed by the tanners in the Borough to show how severely this tax would affect them. They had now a stock of 18 months upon hand, and would be undersold by the Irish tanners, who paid no duty.

After other members had declared their objections to the tax, the Chancellor of the Exchequer rose to defend it. He said that no increase of duty had taken place on the article in question for 101 years, during which almost every other article of use and luxury had undergone a gradual increase of taxation. He then proceeded to reply to the particular objections which had been advanced, and pointed out mistakes in the calculations on which they were founded. He ended with affirming that he was not one of those who concurred in the soundness of the principle,

that the rich alone should be subjects of taxation, as the rich and poor have a common interest in the country, a common system of taxation should, if possible, be applied to both.

On the division for bringing up the report, there appeared Ayes, 66; Noes, 40: majority, 26.

A division took place on the third reading of the bill, in which the leather clause was carried only by the majority of 8, the votes being, for the clause 86; against it 78. The bill then passed the Commons.

When introduced to the House of Lords, the tax on leather encountered an opposition on similar grounds as those maintained in the other house; and was defended on the same principles. Earl Spencer having moved, as an amendment to the bill, the omitting the clause relative to that article, a division took place in which the amendment was rejected by 32 against 12.

The only other debate on the taxes occurred on the order for the third reading of the assessed taxes bill in the House of Commons, June 30th. The clause imposing an additional duty on horses employed in agriculture was opposed by Mr. Westerne, who moved its omission. It was also objected to by other speakers, as injurious to husbandry, and oppressive to the lower class of farmers. On division, it was however carried by 6 votes against 43.

CHAPTER XII.

*Petitions respecting the renewal of the East India Company's Charter—
Bill for the Preservation of the Public Peace.*

AMONG the effects of the commercial embarrassments prevailing through so large a part of the kingdom, was that of exciting an extraordinary interest in the approaching expiration (in May 1814) of the India Company's last charter. All the out ports, debarred from a participation in the East India trade, and many of the manufacturing districts which conceived that new sources of demand for their commodities would be opened by a free exportation to the vast countries included in the company's monopoly, concurred in the resolution of urging, on the present occasion, what they regarded as the just claims of all citizens to share in the public advantages; whilst the company itself, and those bodies which were connected with it by a common interest, prepared to take measures against the menaced attack.

This matter was brought into notice in the House of Commons as early as February 6, when upon Mr. Wallace's motion for a select committee to inquire into the present state of the affairs of the East India company, Mr. Creevey objected to it on the grounds of the incompetence of such a committee to furnish the requisite information, and proposed in its stead a committee of the whole house on the subject. In

the debate which ensued, General Gascoyne affirmed that the merchants of Liverpool expected that a great alteration would be made in the arrangement of the carrying trade to and from India, that all out-ports were violently agitated on this point, and would probably make applications either to government or to parliament, and he hoped they would not be precluded by agreements between ministers and the East India company. On the same day a petition was delivered to the house from the merchants and traders of Greenock, praying for the removal of the restraints on navigation within the exclusive privileges of the East India and South-sea companies.

In the House of Lords, the approaching expiration of the East India company's charter being mentioned, March 23, by Lord Grey, who expressed his surprise that no document on the subject had as yet been laid upon their table, Lord Melville stated, that a discussion was going on between the court of directors and government, which he believed would be produced soon after the recess.

The port of Liverpool, the second in the kingdom with respect to commercial importance, was not backward in taking its part in this great question. On March 23, General Tarleton presented to the House

House of Commons a petition from the merchants, ship-owners, tradesmen, and other inhabitants of Liverpool, and another from the mayor and corporation, claiming as a common and inherent right of the subjects of these realms, that of carrying on a free trade to all parts of the British empire, and countries in amity with it; and protesting against the monopoly of the East India company, as no longer necessary, but, on the contrary, highly prejudicial to the general interests of the nation. Another petition was presented from the trustees of the Liverpool docks, stating that in the extensive works undertaken by them for the accommodation of shipping, they had in view the vast accession of trade which would result from allowing a free commerce with the East Indies.

From this time petitions continued to be sent to parliament, during the whole session, from every seaport and commercial and manufacturing town of the least consequence in England and Scotland, against the renewal of the monopoly of the East India company, enforced by all the arguments, general and local, that occurred to the petitioners. They were met, in the first place, by a petition from the company itself. After referring to its different charters, and to its present circumstances, it states, "That the petitioners believe that it is undeniable that the exclusive trade carried on by them has been a great positive advantage to the nation; and although they do not presume to state, as an incontrovertible fact, that greater public benefit would accrue from its being continued in its present state, than

from its being any further opened, yet the petitioners do venture humbly, but confidently, to assure the house, that the trade with China could not be opened in any degree without extreme danger; and that, if it should not be seen fit to enlarge the term now held by the petitioners in the whole of the trade which they now enjoy without qualification, the petitioners are ready to submit to such regulations as are just, and as parliament in its wisdom shall enact, for the conduct of the commercial intercourse of his Majesty's subjects with those places which are within the exclusive limits granted to the petitioners." They conclude with praying that leave may be given to present a petition for bringing in a bill for continuing the possession and government of the territorial acquisitions in the East Indies in the petitioners, and for various other purposes therein recited.

When this petition was delivered, April 7, Lord A. Hamilton rose to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer some questions with respect to certain points to which he was said to have pledged himself in relation to the conditions to be granted by government to the company. The Chancellor declined a direct reply, but admitted that he had thought it proper to communicate to the directors the bearing of his mind on certain propositions involved in the question, which, however, would not at all fetter the proceedings of parliament on the subject.

The other petitions alluded to in favour of the company came from persons engaged in trades or employments depending upon the present mode of conducting the
East

East Indian commerce, and mostly resident in London. There were, indeed, two petitions from country manufacturers, namely, from the Gloucestershire clothiers, and the manufacturers of long ells in the counties of Cornwall, Devon, and Somerset. The corporation of London, in common council assembled, also, "solemnly disclaiming all selfish considerations and narrow jealousies," petitioned for a continuance of the connection already existing between the East India trade and the port of London, and that the house would "adopt such measures as to their wisdom shall seem meet, to prevent the extension of the said trade to the outports, or other cities and towns of the United Kingdom."

The great mass of these proceedings, and the pressure of other business, prevented the subject of the East India charter from being brought under the discussion of parliament before the close of the session.

The disturbances consequent upon the numbers of workmen thrown out of employ by the diminished demand for the manufactures of the country, after having been for some time confined to the hosiery districts, gradually extended to the neighbouring counties, where they assumed a character still more alarming, and engaged the serious attention of government. Their seat was that large and very populous district comprising those parts of Lancashire and the adjacent tracts of Cheshire which are occupied by the cotton-manufacturers, and the clothing part of the West Riding of Yorkshire. The disposition to tumult in this quarter

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disclosed itself about the end of February, and prevailed with greater or less violence till the middle of summer. During this period a great number of acts of lawless outrage were perpetrated, in the destruction of property, particularly of the machinery and implements used in the manufactures, and in attempts against the lives of persons active in the suppression of riots. In their progress, the rioters appear to have adopted a system of organization highly dangerous to the public peace, and which manifested itself in a degree of military training, accompanied by the seizure and concealment of arms, and the administering of an oath of secrecy and confederacy.

On June 27th, the Prince Regent sent a message to each house of parliament; informing them, that he had given orders that copies of the information received relative to certain violent and dangerous proceedings carried on in several counties of England should be laid before them, and relying on the wisdom of parliament to take proper measures for the restoration of order and tranquillity.

Viscount Sidmouth, now secretary of state for the home department, rose in the House of Lords on the 29th, to move an address to the Regent on the occasion, expressing their thanks for the communication, and declaring their resolution to take into consideration the documents laid before them, and to concur in the necessary measures. He said he should afterwards propose to refer the papers to a committee of secrecy, and therefore would not anticipate what might be thought necessary by that

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that committee. He then gave some reasons why his Majesty's ministers had resorted to the step of laying the affair before parliament; and concluded by moving an address of the tenor above mentioned.

Earl Stanhope said he had no objection to the words of the address, but wished there had been a further explanation of the measures intended, which were left vague and ambiguous; and he proposed adding the words "not violating the principles of the constitution."

The Earl of Liverpool contended that the addition was wholly unnecessary; and after some further conversation it was rejected without a division, and the address was agreed to.

Lord Sidmouth then proposed that a secret committee should be appointed consisting of eleven lords to be chosen by ballot, which was also agreed to.

In the House of Commons, on the same day, Lord Castlereagh moved a similar address to the Regent, and the appointment of a committee of secrecy of 21 members chosen by ballot, both of which motions were carried.

The report of the secret committee was laid before the House of Commons on July 8th, containing a brief detail of the particulars alluded to at the beginning of this chapter. It was ordered to be printed, and taken into consideration on the 10th.

On that day, Lord Castlereagh rose, and after various preliminary observations on the extent and causes of the existing disorders, and the insufficiency of the means hitherto employed for their suppression, he proceeded to state the

proposed powers to be granted by a bill which he should ask leave to bring in, and the duration of which he would limit to the shortest period at which parliament could be assembled to act as circumstances might require. There were three points to which he thought attention ought particularly to be directed:—1st. To make a more effectual provision to keep the rioters from possessing themselves of arms. 2. To guard against the effect of tumultuary meetings. 3. To give more effectual power and more extensive jurisdiction to the magistrates of the disturbed districts. As to the first, respecting arms, the law at present required that a deposition should be made on oath that arms were deposited in a certain place before search could be made. He would propose the alteration of giving to any magistrate of the disturbed districts the power of searching, and of authorising his officers, by his warrant to search, not only for stolen, but for secreted arms; and also of calling on the inhabitants to surrender their arms, receipts being given for the same. At the same time he wished to make a provision for suffering those to retain their arms who might have occasion to use them in defence of their property. As to tumultuary meetings, which had lately taken place not only in the night, but in the day time, of great numbers of persons, for the purpose of training, at present the magistrates could do no more than read the riot act, and order them to disperse, and that not till the end of an hour: his proposal therefore was that they should have a power of immediately dispersing a tumult-

a tumultuous body, and to make those who did not disperse when called upon, liable to punishment. With regard to the third point, he had to observe, that in many parts there were not magistrates sufficient to enforce the law with due vigour, and on the borders of the disturbed counties offenders might escape to another jurisdiction. He would therefore propose, that for the time being, the magistrates in the disturbed and adjacent counties should have a concurrent jurisdiction. He concluded by moving for a bill "For the preservation of the public peace in the disturbed counties, and to give additional powers to the justices for a limited time for that purpose."

Mr. Whitbread declared that he was by no means satisfied with this proceeding. The consequence of not being allowed to enter upon the verbal evidence was the jejune report with which the house had been affronted, and which left it in comparative darkness. The noble lord had made a statement of what he called facts, which in many parts was wholly unwarranted by the report on the table. His own wish had been to try the truth of the anonymous information, but though he had twice divided the committee, and had in one instance 7 out of 17, and in another 9 out of 19, they were obliged to content themselves with the intelligence which government had thought proper to supply. The honourable gentleman then called in question many of the assertions of the noble lord, particularly with respect to the existence of an armed force among the rioters, of regular leaders, distinct combinations, and

depôts of arms. He strongly objected to the proposed measure of searching for arms, and alluded to the horrors which measures of that kind had occasioned in Ireland. He hoped the revocation of the orders in council would cause part of the evil to fall of itself, but said that peace was the only radical remedy for all our grievances.

Mr. Wilberforce said, that connected as he was with that part of the country which was the seat of these disturbances, he could not, without the most painful feelings, contemplate the necessity for the measures now proposed; it, however appeared to him that these measures did not outgo the necessity of the case, and even if government had asked for larger powers, not for the purpose of carrying them at once into execution, but of cautiously feeling their way according to the situation of the country, he should not have hesitated to bestow them. As to the source of these disorders, he could not concur in the opinion that they proceeded from an interruption to commerce, or a scarcity of provisions. He was convinced that the disease was of a political nature, arising from certain mischievous publications industriously circulated to alienate the affections of the people from the laws and government of their country.

Several other members spoke on the subject, and the debate at length digressed into a discussion of the severities employed in Ireland at the period of the rebellion. Lord Castlereagh's motion was in fine put and carried without a division, after which he brought in his bill, which was read a first

time, and appointed for a second reading.

On July 13, the order of the day being moved for the second reading of the bill, Mr. Whitbread rose to declare that his opinion was not at all altered respecting it, but his objections were still more confirmed. There was no evidence before the house to prove the allegation in the preamble, that assemblies of men were in the habit of forcibly demanding and taking arms. He would repeat, that due exertions had not been made to preserve the peace under the existing laws; in some cases the magistrates had been supine: in others they had acted with violence and a perverted judgment. There was now every appearance of a cessation of the disorder; and though the hon. member for Yorkshire had ascribed the evil to inflammatory publications, he himself, and others who thought with him, had declared that work and a lower price of provisions were likely to restore tranquillity.

Mr. A. Smith concurred with his friend the member for Yorkshire in the idea of the mischief that had been done by the circulation of pamphlets which stirred up discontent in the people. He agreed as to the necessity of arming the law with additional powers on the present occasion, and in general approved of the proposed bill. He, however, objected to that part of it which sanctioned two magistrates in collecting the arms which might be scattered in individual hands over the country.

The subsequent speakers in the debate only repeated with greater or less force the arguments for and

against the bill which had been already advanced. Mr. Brougham, indeed, adduced a number of facts to prove that the tumults were owing to distress solely, and to shew the mischief and irritation which had proceeded from the encouragement given to spies, and the intemperate zeal and prejudice which in some instances had been displayed by the magistrates. These cases, however, were by others said to have been grossly exaggerated, and the general impression was manifestly in favour of the bill. On a division there appeared, for the second reading 131, against it 16. It was accordingly read and committed.

On July 16, Lord Castlereagh having risen to move the further consideration of the report on the bill, took the opportunity of correcting a mistake which had prevailed in the house, that it was the intention of ministers to give magisterial powers to persons not connected with the disturbed counties. He said it was the intention merely to consign this authority to the sons of peers, and of persons qualified to sit in parliament, though not in fact qualified to act as justices.

The bill being recommitted, a debate rose respecting the clause empowering single magistrates to search for arms on suspicion. This was objected to by several members as an excess of power which might lead to abuse; and Mr. Giles, observing that he saw no reason for the distinction of requiring two or more magistrates to sign the warrant for receiving arms, and not requiring it for the search for arms, moved, as an amendment, that the

the warrants of two or more magistrates should be necessary in both cases. The clause was defended from the impossibility in many instances of procuring the concurrence of two magistrates in time for an effectual search; and the clause was carried on a division by 77 against 18.

A second division took place on the clause empowering magistrates to lodge the arms so taken in a safe dépôt, which passed by 75 against 16. When the third reading of the bill was moved, July 20, the former objections were renewed, particularly with respect to the powers granted of searching for arms; and it was asserted that the necessity of such a measure no longer existed, tranquillity having been restored in the disturbed districts. Mr. Bathurst, however, declared, that on this very morning information had been received at the secretary of state's office that eight new attempts for seizing arms had been made within these few days. Mr. Tierney then proposed the following amendment to be inserted by way of rider: "Provided always that it shall be lawful for his Majesty, by and with the advice of his privy council, to declare such districts as are now subject to the operation of this act, to be no longer in a state of disturbance, and that this act shall no longer be in force in such districts."

Lord Castlereagh approved of the amendment. A division then took place upon the question of the third reading of the bill; ayes, 69; noes, 15. The bill was then read and passed.

The report of the secret committee of the House of Lords was

presented by the Earl of Harrowby on July 14. It is much more copious and minute than that of the Commons, particularly with respect to the military organization of the rioters. See *State Papers*.

The bill for the preservation of the public peace being sent up from the Commons, its second reading was moved, July 23, by Lord Sidmouth, who introduced it with some observations on the necessity of such a measure, and hoped that its enactment would not be delayed a single day. As it was understood that there should be only one discussion on the subject, a few general remarks only were made by those who were hostile to the principle of the bill, and it was read, and committed for the following day.

On the third reading, before a very thin house, Lord Holland rose, and made objections to the bill, similar to those which had been urged in the House of Commons. He contended that the nature of the evidence brought to prove its necessity, was not such as could justify the measure proposed; and he particularly objected to the powers granted of searching for and taking away arms from private persons by a single magistrate. He concluded with moving the amendments of inserting two magistrates instead of one; and that the magistrate should attend the search in person, and not delegate his power to the constable.

Lord Stanhope said he disapproved of the bill on several grounds, but principally because it was inconsistent with the law of the land, which provided that the officers

officers of the hundred should go so sufficiently armed as to quell any riotous proceedings.

The Earl of Darnley also opposed the bill, which was defended by Earls Camden and Liverpool. The third reading being carried, Lord Holland's amendments were put and negatived. He then pro-

posed as a third amendment; that the magistrates should not have the power of search in the night. This was rejected on a division by 17 against 6, and the bill was passed.

Its operation was limited to the 25th of March, 1813.

CHAPTER XIII.

Mr. Canning's Motion for a future Consideration of the Catholic Question—the same by Marquis Wellesley—Bill for explaining and improving the Toleration Act—Lord Holland's Motion respecting Informations Ex-Officio—Mr. Sheridan's on the Attorney-General of Ireland—Bill to prevent the Escape of French Prisoners—Conversation on Overtures from the French Emperor—Prince Regent's Speech on the Prorogation of Parliament.

NOTWITHSTANDING the repeated failures of the attempts in parliament to procure a concession of the claims of the Irish Catholics to an equal participation in the rights and prerogatives of their fellow citizens, the advocates of their cause, probably imputing the opposition in part to circumstances of temporary irritation, resolved not to give up the contest, but to appeal, as it were, from the heat of the moment, to a future period of calmness and sobriety. In pursuance of this idea, Mr. Canning, on June 22, rose in the House of Commons to make a motion on the subject. He began his speech with alluding to a circumstance which might be regarded as embarrassing to an advocate of the Catholics, but which he considered as only one symptom of the habitual irritation of the public mind in Ireland, and an additional motive for an immediate consideration of the question in the proper place; this was, the receipt on that morning of the resolutions of the aggregate meeting of Irish Catholics at Dublin. He shewed that the warmth of these resolutions

was not to preclude a temperate discussion of a great political question, but rather to inculcate the propriety of dropping the recollections of all that had passed in former debates, and considering the subject as if now presented for the first time. He then laid down three principles on which, in his opinion, the whole matter rested. 1. He would assume as a general rule, that citizens of the same state, living under the same government are entitled, *prima facie*, to equal political rights and privileges. 2. That it is at all times desirable to create and maintain the most perfect identity of interest and feeling among all the members of the same community. 3. That where there exists in any community a great permanent cause of political discontent, which agitates men's minds without having any tendency to subside of itself, it becomes the duty of the supreme power in the state to determine in what mode it may most advantageously be set at rest.

The right honourable gentleman then went on to enlarge upon these several heads, with the force and eloquence

eloquence habitual to him ; but as his path lay directly through all those topics which had already so often been brought forwards in the former debates on the Catholic question, it would be superfluous prolixity to go through his train of argument, and we shall only transcribe the motion with which he concluded. It was, "That this house will, early in the next session of parliament, take into its most serious consideration the state of the laws affecting his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects in Great Britain and Ireland ; with a view to such a final and conciliatory adjustment, as may be conducive to the peace and strength of the united kingdom ; to the stability of the protestant establishment ; and to the general satisfaction and concord of all classes of his Majesty's subjects."

General Matthew, who spoke next, moved as an amendment, "That the House should take the Catholic claims into their early and immediate consideration, and go into a committee upon them on Thursday next."

Of the debate which followed, we shall, for the reason above assigned, decline giving a sketch. One of the most observable circumstances was, that Lord Castlereagh made a liberal declaration in favour of an inquiry into the Catholic claims. That the general feeling of the House was similar was proved on the division, when, after the amendment of General Matthew had been negatived, the original motion was carried by the decisive majority of 235 to 106.

In the House of Lords, on July 1, the Marquis Wellesley, after a strong argumentative speech, but

of which the topics were such as had been amply dwelt upon in former debates, made a motion precisely the same with that of Mr. Canning. The previous question was moved upon it by the Lord Chancellor, and a number of lords on each side declared their sentiments upon the subject, in the arguments and observations already so often repeated. The division showed an extraordinary balance of opinion in the members of that house. On the motion of the previous question, the numbers were, contents, present, 74, proxies, 52 ; total, 126 : not-contents, present, 74, proxies, 51 ; total, 125. Majority, 1. Ministers, and their usual supporters, were ranged on each side ; and of the royal dukes, two voted on one side, and three on the other. Even the bench of bishops was divided, though unequally, for 15 supported the previous question, and three alone opposed it.

Such was the state in which the close of the session left the very important question of Catholic emancipation.

In the debates concerning Lord Sidmouth's motion of last year to make alterations in the act of toleration, it had been stated, that different decisions respecting the meaning of certain clauses of that act had been given by the justices at the quarter sessions of different counties. It was, therefore, a laudable purpose of government to introduce a legal exposition of them which might prevent any future disagreement.

On July 10. Lord Castlereagh moved the bringing in of a bill to repeal certain acts, and amend other acts, relating to religious worship

worship and assemblies, and persons teaching or preaching therein. He stated that in consequence of certain decisions at the quarter sessions, doubts had arisen as to the question of qualification; and that the object of this bill was, to place the dissenters in the situation in which they practically stood previously to such decisions. The bill was brought in and read.

At the order of the day for the third reading of this bill, July 20, Mr. W. Smith congratulated the house on the unanimity with which it had hitherto passed, as a favourable omen of the increasing liberality of the times. He thought it would remove the practical evils of which the dissenters had to complain, although it did not recognize their great principle, that the civil magistrate had no right to interfere in matters of religious opinion. It removed the arbitrary discretion of magistrates, and required no other oath than that of allegiance. As an act of toleration, it was certainly the most complete which had hitherto been passed in this country. The honourable member concluded by moving a clause "to continue the exemptions now enjoyed by the toleration act, without requiring a fresh oath."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer concurred with the honourable gentleman in his congratulations, which he was happy to consider as not arising from indifference to religion, since the same parliament had distinguished itself by its bountiful regards to the established church; and he instanced in the grants made to the parochial clergy, and the exemption of the smaller livings from the land-tax. He gave the late Mr. Perceval the credit both of those measures and of

the design of the present bill. He alluded to an intention of the honourable gentleman to have brought in a bill for the protection of a particular sect (the Unitarians), and was glad that he had not put it into execution, for he believed the persons in question were in no danger of molestation, and such a bill might have given great offence to many well-meaning persons, by exposing doctrines to contumely which were generally viewed with great veneration. In a future session means might be devised to reconcile the respect due to those doctrines with a full protection to the decent profession of opposite opinions.

Mr. Whitbread said, he had examined the bill, and found it the same that he had intended to have brought in, and drew the same happy inferences from its silent progress as his honourable friend had done. He hoped this spirit would continue till the great work of religious freedom received its final consummation.

Mr. Smith's clause was then brought up and agreed to, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

The second reading of the bill in the House of Lords was moved, on July 23, by the Earl of Liverpool, who observed that the subject could not be properly entered into without repealing certain acts which remained on the statute book, but which no one would now think of putting in force. Among these were the conventicle, and the five-mile acts. The latter was entirely abrogated; some parts of the former were retained in another shape. In order to combine the most ample toleration with the requisite securities, it was proposed

posed in the present bill to give to places for religious worship notoriety and publicity, and to require from the preachers and teachers of the same some test or security in the oaths taken by them. Meetings for worship in which the persons assembled did not exceed 20 above the family of the occupier of the house, were exempt from any restriction. Others were required to be registered, and their meetings were to be held with unbolted doors. The preachers of congregations were to take the required oaths at the sessions, but were not required to take them antecedently to their exercising the duties of teaching and preaching.

Earl Stanhope objected to the bill, that it was founded in its preamble and clauses upon expediency alone, and did not recognize the right of religious worship, which he contended to be the unalienable right of man.

Lord Holland, though he agreed with his noble friend as to this right, was nevertheless a warm friend to the bill, as so much gained to the cause of toleration.

Viscount Sidmouth could not give his unqualified approbation to the bill. He regretted the extension of the number allowed at unregistered meetings, from five to twenty. He thought the exemptions granted from civil duties and the militia might lead to abuses: and he particularly lamented that no qualification was required from preachers or teachers, but that all persons, whatever might be their ignorance or moral character, might assume the office on taking the oaths. He did not, however, mean to oppose the bill.

The Lord Chancellor expressed a dissent from the clause granting

exemptions, but said it would be best judged of in the committee.

The bill was then read a second time, and committed.

In the committee on this bill, July 24, the Lord Chancellor objected to the clause granting exemptions to teachers and preachers exercising any other profession or occupation; and contended that complete justice was done by the exemption before granted to all teachers or preachers exercising no other profession except that of a schoolmaster. He therefore, moved to strike out the clause.

Lord Holland was disposed to acquiesce in this amendment, but was doubtful how it might affect dissenting ministers in the possession of land.

The Lord Chancellor thought that the same rule might apply to them, as did to the established clergy: namely, that though they could not take land to farm, yet that being in possession of a lease of land in consequence of the death of a relation, or holding land in fee simple, was not considered as farming. The clause was struck out.

Earl Stanhope moved some amendments which were negatived, and the bill passed through the committee. The report was received on the next day, when the bill passed.

It is to be observed that Earl Stanhope had some time before introduced into the House of Lords a bill "For preventing the imposition of disabilities upon persons on account of religious opinions, or the exercise of their religion," which was founded on the enlarged principles that he held on these subjects, and in supporting which he took
occasion

occasion to speak very slightly of the former then intended bill. The second reading of his bill was, however, negatived by a division of 31 against 10.

The defeat in the last session of the attack upon informations *ex-officio* did not prevent the noble lord (Holland), who had a principal share in it, from bringing the matter again before parliament, though in a different shape. His lordship, on July 3, presented to the House of Lords two bills relative to *ex-officio* informations, the object of the first of which he stated to be, to prevent delay between the commission of the offence and the filing of the information, and between the latter and proceeding to trial; and that of the second, to repeal so much of the act of the 48th of the King, as related to holding persons to bail upon *ex-officio* informations. They were then read a first time and ordered to be printed.

The order of the day for the second reading being moved on the 17th, Lord Holland rose, and made his introductory speech on the subject. As the whole of his argument, as well as those which followed, were of a legal nature, it is impossible to do them justice in the abridged form which our compass would admit, and we must therefore content ourselves historically with a sketch of the result. His lordship after arguing at length upon the abuses to which these informations were liable, and the power they gave of inflicting penalties upon obnoxious persons, for which the law gave no redress, came to the purport of the bill he intended to move, which was only the first of the above mentioned,

the late period of the session having induced him to defer the second. He said, it was a measure merely of regulation. It left untouched the purposes for which these informations were instituted: it did not interfere with the speedy prosecution of enormous offences; but meant to counteract that principle by which the terror of a criminal information was kept hanging over a man's head. The first clause enacted, that no information should be filed by the attorney-general within Great Britain and Ireland, unless it should be filed and exhibited in a given time (to be specified) after the misdemeanor or offence committed. The second was, that if any information *ex-officio* be not proceeded upon, and the offender brought to trial within so many months, all further proceedings upon the same should cease, except such trial should, upon cause shown, have been postponed by a rule or order of the King's Bench. His lordship concluded by moving the second reading of the bill.

Lord Ellenborough expressed his surprise at the bill which had been brought in, and wished his lordship had taken better advice on the subject. He made many legal objections to it, and showed the inconveniences to which it would give rise. He concluded with saying, that it was of so light and frivolous a nature, that he would not propose that it be read a second time this day three months, but would treat it as it deserved, by moving "that it be rejected."

Lord Erskine stated a number of arguments in defence of the bill, and said, with respect to some of the objections made by the chief justice

justice, which applied to the bill as now printed, that his noble friend had professed his willingness to amend it. To the bill, if confined to cases of libel, and guarded in its limitations, he not only saw no objections, but considered that it would be productive of the greatest good, by removing odium from the administration of criminal justice.

After a reply by Lord Holland, the house divided on Lord Ellenborough's amendment: contents, 16; non-contents, 7: majority against the bill, 9.

This question acquired additional interest from a circumstance which happened about this time in Ireland and became a matter of debate in parliament. On July 13, Mr. Sheridan said, in the House of Commons, that he understood that an *ex-officio* prosecution had been commenced against Mr. Fitzgerald, a printer in Ireland, for the publication of a pamphlet containing a statement of the various acts affecting the Roman Catholics, accompanied with observations, which he had read, and saw nothing in it libellous but the acts themselves. The notice served on Fitzgerald was extremely curious: it required him to show cause before Mr. Saurin, the attorney-general, at his house in Stephen's green, why a criminal information should not be filed against him. He submitted that a proceeding of this nature was quite illegal, and should now move for the production of a copy of it.

Lord Castlereagh said that this was the first time he had heard of the subject, and he hoped the hon. gentleman would not press his

motion without a notice; to which Mr. Sheridan acceded.

Mr. Sheridan, on July 21, rose in pursuance of this notice, to call the attention of the house to the summons sent by the attorney-general of Ireland to Mr. Fitzgerald. He related the fact as above stated, and said, that he knew not on what authority an attorney-general could require a man's attendance at his own house, but he knew that such a practice might lead to mischievous consequences. Supposing an ignorant man should be summoned in that manner, the attorney-general might ask him to sit down, tête-à-tête with him, perhaps over a bottle of wine, in his nice snug little back parlour of a star-chamber, where he might be induced to utter unguarded things which might tend to his prejudice when he came to his trial. He did not suspect any such design from Mr. Saurin; but the esteem in which he stood rendered it the more necessary to examine his proceedings. He understood that Mr. Fitzgerald did attend the summons, and that the attorney-general had nothing to say to him. Mr. Sheridan concluded with moving, that a copy of the notice in question be laid before the house.

Mr. Wellesley Pole stated it to have been the ordinary practice in Ireland for the attorney-general to give notice to the party against whom an information was about to be filed, of such an intention, and to call upon an individual to show cause why such information should not be filed; the purpose of which was, not to draw from him what he might have to offer in his defence, but to give him an opportunity

opportunity of offering any explanation that might induce the attorney-general to forbear further proceedings. The right honourable gentleman then digressed to the libel itself, and the justice of prosecuting it, and said, 'he could not possibly agree to the paper being laid on the table, as trials were now pending on the question.

The speakers who followed deviated still further from the proper subject of the motion, to which Mr. Sheridan, in his reply, recalled the attention of the house, shewing that the character of the publication presented had nothing to do with his motion, which was only to inquire into the legality of the summons issued from the attorney-general for attendance at his own house. This, indeed, the ministers were aware did not admit of an easy defence; as Lord Ellenborough, in the debate on Lord Holland's motion, had declared that he should not have acted as the attorney-general of Ireland had done. The motion, however, was negatived on a division by 67 against 23.

The atrocious character of the war between England and France, in which so many years had passed without a cartel for the exchange of prisoners, appears to have induced, among the captives of the latter nation, a state of despair, which subverted all the customary rules of honour, and rendered the parole given for the purpose of obtaining the indulgence of a lax detention, of no avail for restraining individuals from attempts to escape. The frequency of such attempts, and the ready aid afforded in consequence of bribery, at length excited the attention of government, and the measure was

adopted of augmenting the punishment of those who should be convicted of assisting in such escapes.

On July 14, Lord Castlereagh rose in the House of Commons to move a repeal of the existing laws relating to the aid given in effecting the escape of prisoners of war, and substituting a bill by which the crime, instead of a misdemeanor, should be made a felony, punishable by transportation, either for life, fourteen years, or seven years, as might be agreed on. He said, that when it was known that prisoners of the highest rank in the enemy's army had effected their escape by means of an organized system for conveying them out of the country, by a succession of persons so as to elude pursuit, the house would perceive the necessity of providing against the danger. He then made a motion accordingly.

After Mr. Whitbread had expressed his hope that some measure would be adopted for an exchange of prisoners, and Lord Castlereagh had assured him that the fault did not rest with this government, leave was given to bring in the bill. No opposition appears to have been made to its provisions, and the second reading of it in the House of Lords was moved by Lord Sidmouth on July 23.

His lordship, in introducing his motion, remarked, that from a list laid upon the table it appeared that within the last three years 464 officers on parole in this country had made their escape; whilst—a splendid contrast—there was not a single instance of an officer in our service having broken his parole. He dwelt upon the seriousness of the

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the crime of assisting in these escapes, which an eminent judge had considered as nearly approaching to that of high treason : and he said, that by the proposed bill it was only made a transportable felony, the period of transportation to be determined by the enormity of the offence.

No debate ensued ; and the bill shortly after passed into a law.

In the month of April, at the time when the French emperor was on the eve of a war with Russia, he thought proper to make overtures for a peace with England, and a correspondence took place between the two governments on the subject, which soon closed without having produced any effect. No notice of this circumstance was taken in parliament till the letters which passed on the occasion had appeared in some foreign papers. On July 17, Lord Holland, in the House of Lords, requested to know from Lord Liverpool whether ministers were in possession of any further information respecting the overture from France than what had been published in those papers, and whether it was the intention of the executive government to take the subject into their consideration. He would abstain from delivering any opinion respecting the answer to that overture, further than that he was not disposed to admit the existence of king Joseph at the head of the Spanish government, as a principle of negotiation ; yet he should have approved entering into a negotiation upon the principle of rendering Spain independent of France. At the same time he could not but protest against the difficulty which appeared to be

felt in designating the emperor of France as emperor. He also wished to know whether Lord Castlereagh had received any answer to his letter.

Lord Liverpool did not hesitate to admit that the correspondence published was substantially correct ; and he had no objection to produce the papers if called for. With respect to the recognition alluded to, government had acted upon the general principle that such acknowledgments were not to be made gratuitously, but as objects of stipulation for an equivalent. With respect to the matter of the answer, he was persuaded that there were few in the country who would not agree, that if the acknowledgment of Joseph Buonaparté as king of Spain were made a necessary preliminary by the French government, no negotiation could be entered upon by this on such a basis. It had therefore been thought requisite to call for an explicit declaration on that head in the first instance. No communication in reply had been received, and there the matter rested.

This conversation seems to have been all that passed in the House of Lords on this topic.

In the House of Commons, on July 21, Mr. Sheridan rose to speak upon this subject. He began with observing, that his *honourable friend*, Mr. Whitbread, had hurried to town for the express purpose of declaring that he conceived ministers to be entirely wrong, and that the late overture from the French government was the best opportunity that could possibly have been afforded for entering into a negotiation for peace. The honourable gentleman then proceeded

proceeded to refute this anticipated opinion, by a number of remarks relative to the perfidy and delusory politics of the French ruler, not without some of those glowing sentiments relative to the maritime rights of Great Britain, and the honourable character of this nation, which are found to be popular in every assembly, from the highest to the lowest. He concluded with making a motion for an address to the Prince Regent, requesting the production of the correspondence which had passed on this occasion.

Mr. Whitbread, after seconding the motion, expressed some surprise at the manner in which his *right honourable friend* had introduced his observations, as if they were answers to some preceding speech of his against the honour and interests of his country—asupposition which was the mere work of his own imagination. He then, in his proper person, made a variety of remarks on the proposals for accommodation contained in the letter of the Duke of Bassano (Maret), and also upon former offers of negociation by the French government, which he was inclined to think sincere; and he maintained the general sentiments respecting the necessity of peace to this country, which he had expressed on many former occasions.

It cannot be necessary to give a sketch of the other speeches in the political conversation, as it may be rather termed than debate, which ensued. That nothing further could properly have been done by the English government in this negociation, seems to have been the general opinion. The ques-

tion for an address was put and carried. The correspondence thereupon laid before parliament will be found among the State Papers.

This long session was terminated on July 30, by the speech of the Prince Regent, delivered by commission. His Royal Highness, after his acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity displayed by both houses of parliament in the display of their public duties, refers with warm approbation to the exertions made in the Peninsula, particularising the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, and expresses his confidence that the contest in that quarter will be brought to an issue which will secure the independence of the two nations. He then adverts to the new war kindled in the north of Europe, as an additional proof of the little security that can be derived from submission to the tyranny and usurpation of the French government; and he trusts that they will approve of his affording to the powers that may be united in this contest, every degree of assistance and co-operation consistent with his other engagements, and the interests of the kingdom. He assures them that he views with sincere regret the hostile measures which have been adopted by the United States of America, but is willing to hope that the accustomed relations of peace and amity may yet be restored; should his expectations, however, be disappointed, he relies on the support of every class of his Majesty's subjects, to enable him to support a contest in which the honour of the crown and the best interests of the country must be involved.

After

After the customary thanks to the House of Commons for their liberal supplies, and regrets for the additional burthens imposed on the people, his Royal Highness mentions the great concern with which he has observed the spirit of insubordination and outrage which has appeared in some parts of the country, and applauds the dili-

gence employed by parliament in investigating its causes, and the wise measures taken for its suppression. He concludes with recommending to them individually the exertion of their powers for the preservation of the public peace, and for promoting a spirit of obedience to the laws, and attachment to the Constitution.

CHAPTER XIV.

Domestic Occurrences—Negociations for a Change in the Administration—Disturbances in the Country—Affairs of Irish Catholics—Dissolution of Parliament and General Election.

ONE of the subjects which most interested the British public during the first half of the present year was, the expected changes in the administration, concerning which, at different periods, curiosity was kept on the stretch by negociations, either openly carried on, or suspected to be secretly transacting, among the several parties regarded as candidates for the great offices of state. The Prince Regent had indeed left the reins of government in the hands of his father's ministers for a longer time than had been generally predicted; but it was thought that the commencement of the *new era* of his unrestricted regency could not fail to be marked by the accession to power of some, at least, of those to whom he had formerly given his confidence; and although the actual ministers had conducted the government with as little interruption from opposition as most of their predecessors, their tenure was commonly considered as temporary and insecure.

Early in the year, the cabinet sustained a loss, in the Marquis of Wellesley's resignation of the post of secretary of state for foreign affairs, which, on account of the influence and abilities of that nobleman, could not be regarded as in-

considerable. The motives by which he was induced to resign, as they afterwards appeared in a statement made public by his friends, were such as augured more unfavourably than even the act itself for the duration of the ministry. His objections, it was there said, arose in a great degree from the narrow and imperfect scale on which the efforts in the Peninsula were conducted. He had repeatedly with reluctance yielded his opinions to his colleagues on many other*important points; and he was convinced by experience that the cabinet possessed neither ability and knowledge to devise a good plan, nor temper and discernment to adopt what he thought necessary. To Mr. Perceval's judgment or attainments he could not pay any deference without injury to the public service. Entertaining these sentiments, the marquis had, on the 16th of January, requested permission to withdraw from the cabinet, and this desire was notified to the Prince Regent and Mr. Perceval at the same time, with the expression of his lordship's wish that the precise time of his resignation might be accommodated to the pleasure of his Royal Highness, and the convenience of Mr. Perceval, as soon as the restrictions should

should expire. Mr. Perceval is then accused of using all his endeavours to procure the removal of Lord Wellesley before that period, and proposing various persons to the Regent to supersede him in his office. The Regent, however, continued to press his lordship to retain his post; but when, at the expiration of the restrictions, it appeared to be the intention of his Royal Highness to continue Mr. Perceval at the head of the government, Lord Wellesley again tendered the seals to the Regent with increased earnestness. Being commanded to state his opinion on the formation of a cabinet, he declared that in his judgment it ought to be formed on an intermediary principle between instant concession and eternal exclusion with respect to the Roman Catholics, and on an understanding that the war should be carried on with adequate vigour. He added, that he should be ready to serve *with* Mr. Perceval on such a basis; but would never again serve *under* him in any circumstances. The sequel of this proposal was, that in two days afterwards Lord Wellesley received, through the Chancellor, the Prince Regent's acceptance of his resignation, and accordingly delivered up the seals on Feb. 19.

While this trial of strength between Mr. Perceval and Lord Wellesley, with their respective friends, was depending, a remarkable letter, afterwards made public, was written by the Prince Regent to his brother, the Duke of York, dated Feb. 13, in which, after speaking of the motives of duty to their common father which had induced him hitherto to wave his privilege of making a change in the

executive government, and noticing the present crisis of affairs, in which he had no objects to attain, but such as were common to the whole empire, he said, "I cannot conclude without expressing the gratification I should feel, if some of those persons with whom the early habits of my public life were formed, would strengthen my hands, and constitute a part of my government. With such support, and aided by a vigorous and united administration, formed on the most liberal basis, I shall look with additional confidence to a prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great Britain was ever engaged. You are authorised to communicate these sentiments to Lord Grey; who, I have no doubt, will make them known to Lord Grenville."

A negotiation with these lords ensued, the failure of which, with its causes, are stated in our report of the debate on Lord Boringdon's motion in the House of Lords, March 19, for an address to the Prince Regent on the forming of an efficient administration. From that result it appeared that the differences on political opinion between the Grenville party (as it is commonly called) and the existing ministry, were such as precluded any coalition between their leading members.

Lord Castlereagh, on Feb. 28, received the seals of office as the successor to Marquis Wellesley in the foreign secretaryship; and from that time the ministry went on unchanged, and without any symptom of want of stability, till the assassination of Mr. Perceval, in the beginning of May. Of that atrocity, which will ever rank
among

among the most memorable and tragical incidents of the year, a full relation will be found in the Chronicle and the Parliamentary Debates. One conclusion universally drawn from it was, that a very considerable, if not radical, change in the administration was now become inevitable; and the ministers themselves seemed to regard their places as only held *pro tempore* till their successors were agreed upon. The Earl of Liverpool, on whom the post of leader now devolved, attempted to acquire an accession of strength by the association of the Marquis Wellesley and Mr. Canning. Upon the failure of this attempt, Mr. Stuart Wortley made that motion with respect to a strong and efficient administration, the discussion of which will be found in the debates. Its result proving that the ministers were no longer supported by a majority of the House of Commons, the Prince Regent directed negotiations to be opened for effecting the purpose of the address presented to him by that house. The Marquis Wellesley was the first person to whom this important and delicate commission was intrusted; but after a short interval, he tendered to his Royal Highness his resignation of the authority vested in him. For the curious and interesting account given by himself to the House of Lords, of the obstacles which rendered his negotiation fruitless, we refer to the debates.

The same powers were next transferred by the Regent to Lord Moira, who treated with Lords Grey and Grenville upon a basis that seemed to remove all difficulties to a final adjustment. The fail-

ure of this treaty in consequence of a difference respecting the household appointments, with the very extraordinary conduct of Lord Moira on the occasion, is recorded in our account of the debates. As it there appears, to his lordship is solely owing the continuance of a ministry, whose removal, he once said, as the only circumstance which could give the Roman Catholics of Ireland a prospect of obtaining a redress of their grievances, "ought to be rapturously hailed by the whole country."

The Earl of Liverpool, on June 8, stated to the House of Lords that the Prince Regent had on that day appointed him first commissioner of the treasury, and authorised him to complete the arrangements for the ministry; and thus a termination was put to all expectations of a change of men or measures, at least to any considerable extent. The majority in parliament, actuated either by the habitual concurrence with established power, or by the conviction that the past contests had been merely for place and emolument, immediately restored their support to the ministers, and no further cry was heard for "a strong and efficient administration." The principal accessions made to the ministerial list were, Lord Sidmouth, as secretary of state for the home department; Earl of Harrowby, lord president of the council; and Mr. Vansittart, chancellor of the exchequer.

During a great part of this year the country was kept in a state of alarm in consequence of the disposition to riot, which, commencing in the preceding autumn in the hosiery district of Nottingham-

shire, had gradually spread over the extensive and populous tracts of the Lancashire and Cheshire cotton manufacture, and the clothing parts of the West Riding of Yorkshire. As very copious notices of these outrages are given in our Chronicle, in addition to those which appear in the debates of parliament on the bills introduced for their suppression, and the minute report from the secret committee of the House of Lords on the subject, we shall only briefly advert to them as a part of the domestic history of the year. The numbers and daring spirit of these rioters, the system of organization and deliberate plan under which they acted, and the weapons with which many of them were provided, rendered them truly formidable to the master-manufacturers and peaceable inhabitants of the disturbed districts, and excited serious apprehensions in the minds of many for the general safety of the kingdom. Indeed, if there was no exaggeration in the informations which gave rise to the reports made by the committees of parliament, designs were entertained among the leaders, of deep and dangerous import; and their undoubted seizure of fire-arms, and administrations of oaths of secrecy and confederacy, confirm in part the suspicions suggested. It was, however, ascertained that all these leaders were persons of the lowest ranks in society, who, though they had a considerable influence over their immediate followers, were utterly unable to frame or conduct any thing like a widely-extended insurrection against the government. If, therefore, there was any justness in the character

given in parliament of these disturbances, as being of a *political nature*, rather than the result of temporary distress and want of employment, the term must be understood, not as pointing to any particular meditated change in the constitution, but to a vague spirit of misrule and insubordination, possibly fostered by inflammatory writings inculcating levelling notions. It is, however, to be observed, that the existence or dispersion of such writings among the rioters is no part of the information contained in the reports to parliament.

It was found necessary, as these outrages increased, to station a large military force in the disturbed counties; which on various occasions was called upon to act; but such interference seems always to have been kept within moderate bounds, and not to have exceeded the necessity of the occasion. The terrors of the law were also, after a due term of forbearance, called in to assist in repressing and punishing the violations of the public peace; and several of the most guilty paid the forfeit of their lives at the assizes of the counties which were the scene of these disorders. By these means, together with the remedies adopted for the distresses of the labouring poor, and the prospect of increased employment, tranquillity was in great measure restored before the close of the year, in most quarters; yet occasional outrages still occur, and it has not yet been thought safe to withdraw the strong hand of coercion.

The uncommonly high price of provisions, occasioned by many concurrent causes, and by no means relieved by the product of the

the last harvest, has been the cause of petty riots in various parts of the kingdom, unconnected with the serious commotions above-mentioned, and which have required no extraordinary exertions for their suppression. It is observable that the metropolis did not participate in any of these popular tumults, though the frequency of burglaries and street robberies proved that a great number of lawless banditti were loose upon the public.

The catholics of Ireland have continued stedfast in the pursuit of that restoration to the full rights of citizens, which has long been the very natural object of their desires, and to which it will be very difficult to convince them by argument that they have not a well-founded claim. They have, however, during this year avoided any of those contests with government which, in the opinion of many, threw some discredit on their cause, and subjected them to the imputation of attempting to gain by intimidation, what they could not obtain by an appeal to justice. On the other hand, the government of that country, content with asserting the authority of the laws, has treated with great lenity those breaches of them which appeared to proceed rather from inconsiderate ardour, than a spirit of defiance.

After Mr. Kirwan, in the month of January, had been tried before the King's Bench at Dublin, for acting as a delegate for one of the parishes of that city at a meeting of the catholics, and found guilty, the sentence pronounced upon him was only a fine of one mark, and the attorney-general entered a *noli prosequi* upon the others who lay under a similar charge.

On Feb. 28, the aggregate meeting of the catholics was held at Dublin, in which a petition to the Prince Regent was read and unanimously voted. It was presented to his Royal Highness in the month of April. This contains, in respectful, but firm and explicit language, a statement of their grievances and their claims. It begins with copying that *civil* test of allegiance to the established government and its head, and of renunciation of all principles subversive of this allegiance, and disavowal of any designs hostile to the present church establishment, which they have taken, and are willing to take, on the sanction of a solemn oath, in lieu of *spiritual* tests to which their consciences will not suffer them to submit. It remarks, that for nearly the last twenty years the progress of religious freedom has been obstructed; and whilst other Christian nations have hastened to unbind the fetters on religious dissent, the Roman catholics of Ireland have remained unrelieved. It refers to the numerous penal laws and incapacities still in force against them, and from which they seek relief. "Our object (they say) is avowed and direct—earnest, yet natural. It extends to an equal participation of the civil rights of the constitution of our country—equally with our fellow-subjects of all other religious persuasions: it extends no further." It frankly reminds his Royal Highness, that an equal degree of enthusiasm cannot be expected in the defence of their country from men who feel themselves excluded from a fair participation of the benefits of a good constitution, as from those who fully partake

partake of those blessings. On the whole, it may be regarded as perhaps the most concise, yet comprehensive statement of the case of the petitioners that has appeared in an authentic shape. See *State Papers*.

The parliamentary debates will show how often this important topic came under consideration in the two houses, and with what result. It was kept alive by a number of petitions to the legislature poured in from the catholics of the different Irish counties, and also by many from protestant bodies in that country, in support of the former ; for it appears either that the protestants had lost their habitual fears and jealousies of their catholic neighbours, or that they were convinced, that between opposite dangers, the least was that of conceding, what it would be finally unsafe to refuse. Expectation seems to have kept the catholics in a state of moderation till after their cause had sustained two defeats in parliament, and they saw a ministry established which they had reason to suppose decidedly adverse to their cause ; when they could not be prevented from breaking out into a degree of intemperance. At an aggregate catholic meeting held at Dublin on June 18, a set of resolutions proposed by Lord Kileen was passed, in which, after declaring their determination of renewing their petitions to the legislature, they allude to disappointments proceeding from "the fatal witchery of an unworthy secret influence, spurning alike the sanctions of public and private virtue, the demands of personal gratitude, and the sacred obligations of plighted honour." The

general strain of these resolutions was in a similar style of angry censure levelled at a high mark ; and arriving in England at the time when a new effort was made in their favour, it occasioned some embarrassment to their friends. The issue, however, of the subsequent motion for taking their case into consideration early in the next session of parliament, was a complete victory in the House of Commons, and as nearly as possible a drawn battle in the House of Lords — appearing to evince an approaching national decision in their favour. But either this prospect, or the known inclinations of the ministry, now began to animate the zeal of all in England, who, from motives of interest, or religious prepossessions, were foes to all concessions which trench upon the exclusive privileges of the establishment ; and the remainder of the year passed in the active promoting of petitions against the catholic claims, from both the universities, from different clerical bodies, from counties, towns, and parishes ; whilst a variety of publications, addressed to that hatred of popery which has for some generations been a ruling passion among the different denominations of protestants in this country, kept up the ferment in the public mind.

As the ministers, at the time of the prorogation of parliament, appeared to be possessed of all the usual influence of government, and the Regent's terminating speech expressed full satisfaction in the measures which had been adopted by that assembly, the nation in general, notwithstanding some preceding rumours, did not seem to expect its speedy dissolution. None
of

of the late parliaments, indeed, had been suffered to live out their assigned period ; but manifest causes for anticipation had existed in some instances, and in others, a year only had been retrenched from their term of existence ; but the present parliament had nineteen months to run before its legal expiration. It was, therefore, to the general surprise, that by a proclamation issued from the Prince Regent, on Sept. 29, a dissolution of parliament was declared, with the announcement of writs for a new one returnable on the 24th of November next. As no public reason has been given for this step, conjecture has been left to imagine the most probable. It might be thought that the pledge given by the House of Commons of an early attention to the catholic claims, concurred in by a majority which seemed to augur a prevailing disposition to grant them, suggested to those who were adverse to the measure this effectual means of defeating it ; but the ministers themselves differed on this topic ; not to add, that such a change of sentiment in the Prince Regent is scarcely conceivable, as should induce him to give his sanction to a project for overthrowing attempts which he once undoubtedly favoured. Whatever were the immediate motives for ministers in advising this measure, it certainly displayed a confidence in their popularity with the nation at large, or, at least, in the powers in their hands for procuring such a return of representatives as would rather augment than diminish their influence.

The remainder of the year was,

of course, occupied with all the bustle of a general election ; but the shortness of the notice, joined to the circumstances of the time, seems to have abridged the usual proportion of contests, especially in the counties. For the same reason, few of those riots were heard of which have so often disgraced this period of popular licence. As far as the temper of the nation can be judged by the return of representatives, the cause of opposition had at least gained no ground by the events of the year. In the metropolis, and the towns of Bristol and Liverpool, the candidates in that interest underwent a defeat. The case of the latter great commercial port was extremely remarkable. Though it had been peculiarly a sufferer from the operation of the orders in council which had ruined its American trade, the election went in favour of one who, when a member of administration, had taken a great share in promoting those orders, to the rejection of the person who had been the principal instrument of their repeal—so little confidence can be placed even in men's apparent interests, when opposed by their political prejudices ! It is true, the system of carrying on almost the only foreign commerce left in this country, that by licences, has a direct tendency to augment the influence of government over the mercantile interest ; while the manufacturers in many branches are equally subjected to the same influence by means of contracts. The monied interest in the metropolis has always been notoriously at the disposal of every existing administration.

CHAPTER XV.

Naval Affairs ; Capture of La Corcyre—Of La Pomona and a Store Ship—Loss of the Manilla and Laurel—Capture of the Merinos—Of the Rivoli—Of a Flotilla off Dieppe—Destruction of two French Frigates and a Brig near l'Orient—Of a Danish Squadron near Mardoe—Convoy brought out of Languillia—Another Attempt at the same Place—The Attack Brig taken by the Danes.

THE attention of the French emperor has, during this year, been so much engaged by his continental projects, that the mighty preparations he seemed to be making in the past year for contending with Great Britain on the ocean, produced no sensible addition to the power and enterprise of his navy, which for the most part lay quiet in port, and offered very few opportunities to the British commanders stationed in the European seas of gratifying that ardour for distinguishing themselves in their country's service by which they are so honourably characterised.

An account arrived at the Admiralty, in February, of the capture, on November 19, by the *Eagle*, Captain Rowley, of the French frigate *La Corcyre*, pierced for 40 guns, but mounting only twenty-six eighteen pounders on the main-deck, and two six-pounders on the quarter-deck. She had a complement of 170 seamen, and 130 soldiers, was laden with wheat and military stores, and was bound from Trieste to Corfu. She had two companions, which escaped during the chase that began off Fano, and terminated near Brin-

disi. The action was short, as, indeed, the inequality of force would have rendered a protracted resistance only a fruitless waste of lives. No one was hurt on board the *Eagle*.

In the same sea, off Lissa, a very severe action was fought between three English and three French frigates, which did credit to the bravery and conduct of both parties, though success, as usual, remained to the English. The French squadron having been descried to the south of Lissa on November 28, the ships *Alceste*, *Active*, and *Unité* were warped out of the harbour of St. George, and on the morning of the 29th came in sight of the enemy off the island of Augusta. The French commodore formed in line, and for a short time stood towards his antagonists ; but finding the English bearing upon him in close line under full sail, he bore away to the N.W. His rear ship separating, Captain Murray Maxwell, the British commodore, detached the *Unité* after her, and himself, in the *Alceste*, commenced action with the other two. On passing the rearmost to get at the commodore, a shot

a shot bringing down his main-topmast, he dropt a little astern, on which triumphant shouts of *Vive l'Empereur* resounded from the French ships. Captain Gordon, however, in the *Active*, pushed on, and brought the sternmost to close action; whilst the French commodore, shortening sail, fairly engaged the *Alceste*. After a warm conflict of two hours and twenty minutes, the French commodore, in the *Pauline*, thought proper to bear away to the westward, the crippled state of the *Alceste* not suffering Captain Maxwell to pursue him. The other ship then struck, and proved to be the *Pomone* of 44 guns, and 322 men, commanded by Captain Rosamel, whose skill and courage are very honourably recorded by the victor. He had fifty men killed and wounded; his antagonist, the *Active*, had thirty-two, among whom were Captain Gordon, who lost a leg, and his first lieutenant, who had an arm carried away. In the mean time, Captain Chamberlayne in the *Unite* had overtaken his chase, which struck after a trifling resistance, and to his mortification proved to be only a store ship of twenty-six guns and 190 men, named *La Persanne*. The *Active* was sent with the prizes and prisoners to Malta, and the two others were immediately refitted for service.

In addition to the naval losses by shipwreck at the close of the last year, that of the *Manilla* frigate of thirty-six guns, Captain Joyce, was reported by Admiral Winter, commander of the Dutch Texel fleet, as occurring near the end of January. This ship having struck on the *Haak* sand in a dreadful gale

on the evening of the 28th, made signals of distress, upon which some fishing boats were sent out to her relief. These were obliged to return without being able to reach her; but on the next day, the weather becoming more moderate, they approached her, when the chief pilot risked his life by venturing upon the shallows and sunken rocks, and the English having made a raft of empty barrels, he was enabled to bring off thirty-five of them. During the 30th and 31st all the rest of the crew were brought safe to land, whence they were marched as prisoners to Amsterdam; the whole loss from the wreck appearing to have amounted only to six men. The ship went entirely to pieces. On this occasion, the exertions of the Dutch to preserve the lives of the sufferers were highly meritorious.

About the same time the *Laurel*, Captain S. C. Rowley, a fine new frigate, was lost in Quiberon bay. This ship, with two other frigates, had been ordered to pursue three French frigates which had escaped from the Loire; and on the morning of January 31, they weighed anchor, and made sail through the passage *Taigneuse*. It blew hard, and the weather became hazy; when the *Laurel* struck upon a sunken rock, and had a large hole made in her bottom. She was backed off, and the men continued pumping, till the vessel was reported to be sinking; when the cable was cut, and she was run ashore on a reef of rocks, about a mile from the French coast. In this situation, a heavy fire being opened upon her from the enemy's batteries, a flag of truce was hoisted. The firing was, however, continued,

tinued, till three boats, with about 70 men and 4 officers, were sent on shore from the ship, who delivered themselves up as prisoners. The French are then said, with an inhumanity which appears to have been merely gratuitous, to have refused permission for the boats to return for the remainder of the crew, who would have been their prisoners; and they must all have perished, had not Captain Somerville, against the remonstrance of his pilot, gallantly worked his ship up among the rocks, brought her to anchor, and taken the men off the wreck, after they had been upon it in a very perilous situation for several hours. The French fired on the boats till they were out of reach.

A letter from Captain Taylor, of the *Apollo*, to Vice-admiral Pellew, dated Feb. 14, mentions, that on the preceding day, on rounding Cape Corse, he fell in with a French frigate-built store-ship and a corvette. On closing with them, the former vessel struck, and proved to be the *Merinos*, commanded by M. Honoré Coardonan, captain of a frigate, and a member of the legion of honour, the ship quite new, of 850 tons, pierced for 36 guns, but carrying only twenty 8-pounders, with 126 men. She was bound to Sagona for timber. The *Apollo* suffered no loss, though exposed for four hours to batteries on shore. The corvette made her escape with the assistance of boats from the shore.

Capt. Talbot of the *Victorious*, senior officer of the upper part of the Adriatic, communicated on March 3rd to Capt. Rowley, an account of his success in capturing a line-of-battle ship of the enemy. On Feb. 21, the *Victorious*, in

company with the *Weazel* sloop, descried a large ship with several small ones proceeding from Venice to Pola in Istria. A signal for chase was made, the enemy being in a line of battle, with two gun boats and a brig a-head of the large ship, and two brigs astern. The *Weazel*, Capt. Andrews, was directed to bring the brigs astern of the commodore to action, in order to induce him to shorten sail, which had the intended effect. At half past four in the afternoon the *Victorious* commenced action with the line-of-battle ship the *Rivoli*, of 74 guns, at the distance of half-pistol shot, neither ship having hitherto fired a gun; and the water being smooth, every shot told, and the carnage on both sides was dreadful. At five, one of the brigs engaged with the *Weazel* blew up, and that vessel went in chase of the rest, but was recalled by captain Talbot, who thought that as they were in only seven fathoms water, one or the other of the great ships might get aground and want assistance. Capt. Andrews, on being recalled, placed his brig on the bow of the *Rivoli*, and raked her with three broadsides. That ship, for nearly two hours, had been rendered perfectly unmanageable, and had been able to keep up only a very slow fire. At nine o'clock she struck, and was taken possession of. She bore the broad pendant of Commodore Barre, the French commander in chief of the Adriatic, who displayed great skill and valour in the action. He lost 400 killed and wounded, including his captain and most of his officers, out of 862 persons, with whom he entered into action. The *Victorious* also sustained a severe loss of men, not enume-

enumerated. She had at the commencement only 506 actually on board, of whom 60 were on the sick list. Of the French brig engaged with the Weazel, which blew up, only three men were saved; the Weazel did not lose a single man. Few actions in any year have afforded more convincing proof of the superiority of British seamanship.

A spirited action on a small scale was reported in March by Mr. Harvey, commander of the sloop *Rosario*, off Dieppe. On the 27th of that month, in the morning, he observed an enemy's flotilla, consisting of 12 brigs and one lugger, standing along shore, and immediately made sail, with the intention of cutting off the leewardmost. The flotilla formed into a line, and engaged the *Rosario* as she passed; and when she luffed up to attack the sternmost, they all bore up to support her, and endeavoured to close with the sloop. The commander, not chusing with his small force to run the risk of being boarded, bore away to a brig in the offing, which proved to be the *Griffin*, Captain Trollope, and made the signal for an enemy, which was answered. He then immediately hauled his wind, and pursuing the flotilla, which was making all sail for Dieppe, began to harass the rear, and at length dashed into the midst of them, receiving and returning their whole fire. He disabled some, and ran others on shore, before he was joined by the *Griffin*, which could not come up sooner. Capt. Trollope gallantly contributed his part; and the result was, the capturing three of the enemy, driving two on shore, and much damaging the

others. This flotilla, was proceeding from Boulogne to Cherbourg: each brig carried three long brass 24-pounders, and an eight-inch brass howitzer, with a complement of 50 men; and they were assisted by batteries on shore, keeping up a constant fire of shot and shells. The loss on board the *Rosario* was, however, only five wounded.

The account of a successful attempt to intercept two French frigates and a brig off *l'Orient*, was communicated in a letter dated May 24th, from Captain Hotham, of the *Northumberland*, to Rear-Admiral Sir H. B. Neale. The writer states, that having, according to orders, proceeded off *l'Orient* with the *Growler* gun-brig in company, the French vessels were descried on the morning of the 22nd, the N.W. point of *isle Groa* bearing N. from the *Northumberland* ten miles distant, crowding all sail to get into the port of *l'Orient*. Capt. Hotham's first endeavour was to cut them off to windward of the island; but not being able to effect this, he caused the *Northumberland* to be pushed round the S. E. end of *Groa*, and got to windward of the harbour's mouth before the enemy could reach it. He continued to beat to windward between *Groa* and the continent in order to close with them, unavoidably exposed to the fire of the batteries on each side when within their range. The enemy, after some consultation, at length bore up in a close line with every sail set, and made a bold attempt to run between the *Northumberland* and the shore, under cover of the numerous batteries with which it is there lined, Capt. Hotham placed his ship to meet them

them as close as he could to a point, with her head to the shore; but they hauled so close round the point, following the direction of the coast, that he did not think it prudent to pursue that plan with a ship of such a draught of water. He therefore bore up and steered parallel to them at the distance of two cables length, giving them broadsides, which were returned by a very brisk fire from the ships and batteries, highly destructive to the Northumberland's sails and rigging. It was Captain Hotham's object to prevent them from passing on the outside of a dry rock; but there was evident hazard in bringing his ship so near the rock as to leave them no room to pass: this was, however, effected by the skill and care of the master; and the French ships attempting, as the only alternative, to sail between the rock and the shore, all grounded. During the falling tide, the Northumberland was employed in repairing damages: she was then brought to anchor with her broadside bearing upon the enemy's ships, which had all fallen over on their sides next the shore as the tide left them. A continued fire was kept on them for more than an hour; when their crews having quitted them, their bottoms pierced with shot, and one of them completely in flames, Captain Hotham got under sail, leaving the Growler to prevent by its fire the return of the men to their vessels. In the evening, the first frigate blew up with a dreadful explosion; and soon after, the second appeared to be on fire. She also blew up during the night; and a third explosion heard on the next day was doubtless that of the

brig; and thus the work of destruction was completed. Captain Hotham was informed that these vessels were *L'Arianne* and *L'Andromache*, of 44 guns and 450 men each, and the *Mameluke* brig of 18 guns and 150 men: that since January they had been cruizing in various parts of the Atlantic, and had destroyed 36 vessels of different nations, the most valuable parts of the cargoes of which they had on board. The loss of men in the Northumberland was not considerable in proportion to the warmth of the action.

On July 7th, Capt. Stewart, of his Majesty's ship *Dictator*, with three armed brigs, being off *Mardoe*, on the coast of Norway, observed the mast heads of a Danish squadron over the rocks. Captain *Robilliard*, of the brig *Podargus*, having a man on board acquainted with the place, offered to lead in to attack them; but on the entrance he ran a-ground, and the *Flamer* brig being left to assist her, Capt. Stewart was deprived of their assistance. The *Calypso*, Capt. *Weir*, however, led the way through a passage of 12 miles among the rocks, in some places so narrow that there was scarcely room for setting out their studding-sail booms, till at length they came within reach of the enemy, who had been retiring before them under a press of sail. These consisted of the *Nayaden* frigate of 38 guns, but mounting 50, three stout brigs, and 25 gun-boats, lying anchored close together in the small creek of *Lyngoe*. The *Dictator* ran her bow on the land with her broadside to the enemy, and being seconded by the *Calypso*, their fire was so powerful, that in half

half an hour the frigate was battered to pieces, and flames were seen bursting from her hatchways, the brigs had struck, and most of the gun-boats were beaten, and some sunk. The *Podargus* and *Flamer* being a-ground were at this time engaged with numerous gun-boats, and batteries, but were at length safely got afloat. At three in the afternoon, the *Dictator*, *Calypso*, and *Prize* brigs, were returning through the passages, when they were assailed by a division of gun-boats so placed behind the rocks that no gun could be brought to bear on them. In this situation, the prize brigs ran aground, and it was necessary to abandon them in the state of complete wrecks, humanity forbidding setting them on fire, on account of the many wounded they had on board. In this bold enterprize the English squadron suffered a loss of 50 in killed and wounded: that of the *Danes* was at least 300.

Of minuter successes, one most worthy of notice was communicated by Capt. Josias Rowley, of the *America*, in a letter dated off Languillia, May 10th, addressed to Vice-admiral Sir Edward Pellew, the commander-in-chief off Toulon. It states, that the *America*, in company of the *Leviathan* and *Eclair*, having, on the preceding day, fallen in with a convoy of 18 sail of the enemy deeply laden, which took shelter under the town and batteries of Languillia, on the coast of Genoa, it appeared to him and Captain Campbell practicable to destroy them by getting possession of the batteries. For this purpose, the marines of the *America* and *Le-*

viathan were landed at day-break on the 10th, and whilst a party was detached to carry a battery to the eastward, which was effected, the main body rapidly advancing through a severe fire of grape, carried the battery adjoining the town of Languillia, consisting of four 24 and 18-pounders, though protected by a strong body of the enemy posted in a wood and in several contiguous buildings. The fire of the *Eclair* having in the meantime driven the enemy from the houses on the beach, the boats proceeded to bring out the vessels, which were secured by various contrivances; and 16 being towed off, the marines were re-embarked without molestation, though a strong party was advancing from the town of Allassio to reinforce their friends. The loss in the spirited attack on the batteries was much less than might have been expected, but the *America's* yawl was unfortunately struck by a chance shot, and ten marines and a seaman were drowned.

Another attempt was made, on June 27th, to carry off a convoy from the towns of Languillia and Allassio, by the *Leviathan*, Capt. Campbell, who had also under his command the *Curaçoa*, *Imperieuse*, and *Eclair*. The marines landed on this occasion were attacked, as soon as formed on the beach, by treble their number; but rushing on with their bayonets they drove the enemy from their batteries, killing many, spiked the guns, and destroyed the carriages, and re-embarked with several prisoners. The vessels were, however, so firmly secured, that they could not be brought away, and they were de-

destroyed by the fire from the ships.

The naval success in the Danish sea was in some degree balanced by the loss of his Majesty's brig *Attack*, on August 18th, which, being surrounded by 14 gun-vessels off Foreness in Jutland, was obliged, after a gallant resistance, to yield to a vast superiority of force. The brig had a smaller crew on board than that of each of her antagonists; and the commander, Lieut. Simmonds, was most honourably acquitted for the surrender, by a court-martial.

These were the most memorable occurrences respecting the British navy in the European seas during the year 1812; and if not highly important, they were such as sufficiently evinced that the zeal and activity of our countrymen engaged in this service had suffered no diminution for want of adequate antagonists. We shall reserve the painful task of recording the reverses in a different quarter, to that narrative of the new war in which this kingdom is unfortunately engaged, which must occupy some of our future pages.

CHAPTER XVI.

War in the Peninsula—Valencia taken by the French—Their Failure at Tariffa—Lord Wellington's Investment of Ciudad Rodrigo—Capture of that place by Storm—Attempt on Tarragona—Further Success of the French in Valencia—Investment of Badajoz by Lord Wellington—Its capture—Irruption of the French into Portugal—Successes of Spanish Parties—Expedition of General Hill to Almaraz—Defeat of Ballasteros at Bornos—Capture of Lequiti—Advance of Lord Wellington to Salamanca—Capture of its Forts—Marmont's Advance—Battle of Salamanca—Retreat and Pursuit of the French—Valladolid entered—Affair of Cavalry at Ribera—Allied Army enters Madrid, and Fort La China taken—Astorga capitulates—Blockade of Cadiz broken up—Bilboa evacuated—Seville recovered by the Allies—Lord Wellington advances to Burgos. Failure of Attempts to take its Castle. French collect and advance—Retreat of the Allied Army, which returns to Freynada.—Transactions of the Spanish Cortes and Regency—Public Signature of the Constitution—Settlement of the Succession—Lord Wellington appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Spanish Armies—Ballasteros displaced—Affairs of Portugal.

THE conclusion of the last year left the important city of Valencia invested on all sides by Marshal Suchet, without any other prospect of defence, than its own force, and the fugitives from Blake's defeated army, afforded. The lines with which Valencia are surrounded are said to have been 6,000 toises in extent, and to have cost the city 12 millions of reals, and the labours of some thousands of men for two years in forming them. They were, in fact, an intrenched camp, defended by nearly 20,000 troops of the line, 6,000 militia, and 100 pieces of cannon. The French trenches were opened in the nights of the 1st and 2d Jan. within 70 to 80 toises of the Spanish works, and in four days the engineers pushed mines within 50

toises of the fosse. Batteries were erected at 60 toises distance, and the effects of these operations caused the Spaniards to abandon their lines, and take post in the suburbs. On the 5th a bombardment was begun, and a capitulation was offered to the town by Suchet, which was rejected by Blake. The bombardment was recommenced, and in three days and nights 2,700 bombs were thrown into the city, causing many fires and explosions. The engineers by that time had made a lodgment in the suburbs, and had placed mines under two of the principal gates. The horrors of an assault were impending over this populous city; and in order to avert them, General Blake now consented to a capitulation. By its terms, Valencia was put into the power

power of the French, with about 18,000 troops of the line (including the sick in hospitals) made prisoners of war, a great number of officers of rank, 374 pieces of artillery, and a great quantity of military stores. The militia was disarmed, and means were taken to restore the tranquillity of the province. As a reward for this signal success, the title of Duke of Albufera was conferred upon Marshal Suchet.

While the French arms were thus victorious in this quarter, they failed in an inferior enterprize, probably much against expectation. It was mentioned at the conclusion of the Peninsular transactions of the last year, that the design against the town of Tariffa having been resumed, Gen. Victor had invested it with a considerable force, and that a breach was made in the wall. This circumstance is reported by the brave commander, Col. Skerret, on Dec. 30th, when an assault was expected. On the evening of the 31st, a strong column was seen rapidly advancing to the breach, and suitable preparations were made to receive the attack. The intrepid resistance of the defenders was crowned with success. In less than an hour, victory declared for them; the boldness of the assailants fell at the foot of the breach, and the mass of the column made a precipitate retreat. A very pleasing instance of humanity succeeded this exertion of valour. The ground between the town and the enemy's battery was strewed with their wounded, who must have perished had they remained there. Colonel Skerrett therefore hoisted a flag of truce in

token of permission to carry them off; and this humane act was very feelingly acknowledged by the French commander. From that time the enemy kept up a partial fire, by which the breach was widened, and another assault was expected; when on the morning of January 5th, the columns of the enemy were descried already at a distance, having left behind them their artillery, ammunition, and stores. A detachment of the garrison was sent out to take possession of them, which rescued from the flames the articles that had been set on fire. A number of dead was found on the place, indicating the great loss which the besiegers must have suffered during the whole period. "Thus we have seen (says Col. Skerrett, with allowable exultation) the utmost effort of the French has been frustrated by 1,800 British and Spanish troops, with only the defence of a paltry wall; and an army of 10,000 men, conducted by a marshal of France, retreating from them silently in the night, after having been repulsed and defeated, leaving behind all their artillery and stores, collected at a great expense, and by immense exertions."

Lord Wellington, who in the autumn had placed his troops in cantonments across the Agueda to recover from their sickness and fatigues, was in motion at the very commencement of the year. In a dispatch dated from Gallegos, January 9, 1812, he informs the foreign secretary of state that he invested Ciudad Rodrigo on the preceding day. He mentions having taken by storm a new redoubt constructed by the French on the hill
of

of St. Francisco, and that he had broke ground within 600 yards of the place. Lieutenant-General Hill had arrived on December the 30th at Merida, whence General Dombrowski had retired in the night, leaving his magazines of provisions. General Hill had removed forward with the intention of attacking General Drouet, who retired first upon Zafra, and then upon Llerena: General Hill therefore returned to Merida, where he put his men into cantonments. In another dispatch, dated January the 15th, Lord Wellington gives an account of the progress of the siege, which had been facilitated by two successful attacks on posts of the enemy, close to the body of the place, and had enabled the besiegers to establish a second parallel at the distance of 150 yards from it.

On the 20th, his lordship was enabled to send the welcome intelligence of the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo, that important frontier town, which had so often been the object of military operations. The fire of the batteries having considerably injured the defences of the place, and made breaches regarded as practicable, Lord Wellington determined on a storm, though the approaches had not been brought to the crest of the glacis, and the counterscarp was still entire. The attack was made on the evening of the 19th, in five separate columns, for the disposition of which, we refer to the account in the Gazette. All these attacks succeeded, and in less than an hour the assailants were in possession of and formed upon the ramparts of the place, each column contiguous to the next. The ene-

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my then, who had sustained a severe loss in the conflict, submitted. The loss of the besiegers was also considerable, especially in officers of rank. Of these, Major-General M'Kinnon was killed by the explosion of a magazine close to the breach. His Lordship bestows the warmest encomiums on all the officers engaged in this service, and the success of such a spirited enterprize redounds equally to the honour of the Commander, and those who acted under him. The fruits of victory were a garrison of 1,700 men, besides officers, and 153 pieces of ordnance, including the heavy train of the French army, with great quantities of ammunition and stores. The losses of the besiegers from January the 15th to the 19th, amounted to nearly 700 of all descriptions, killed, wounded, and missing.

The sense of the Spanish nation on this success was displayed in a vote of the Cortes, by acclamation, conferring on Lord Wellington the rank of a Grandee of the first class, with the title of Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo.

The French, at this time, were concentrating their northern forces about Salamanca, and for this purpose had evacuated the province of Asturias. The Guerillas were every where upon the alert to give them all possible molestation.

During the siege of Valencia, the Spaniards, in Catalonia, under the command of General Lacy and Baron d'Eroles, by way of diversion, or to improve the opportunity of the absence of the French main army, made an attempt upon Tarragona, in which they were assisted by an English naval force. The French General De Caen,

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however,

however, having dispatched thither the division of La Marque, with a party of the garrison of Barcelona, under the orders of General Mathieu, the Spaniards were attacked on the heights of Altafouilla, January the 24th, and defeated, with considerable loss of men, arms, and baggage, and the whole of their artillery. A different account was given of this affair by the Spaniards; it is, however, certain, that the attempt on Tarragona failed.

After the capture of Valencia, Marshal Suchet pursued his success, and the French became masters of Alzira, St. Felipe, Gandia, and Denia; Peniscola surrendered soon after. Soult, with his corps of observation, at this time occupied the frontiers of Murcia, and had pushed an advanced party as far as the camp at Lorca.

Lord Wellington remained some time at Ciudad Rodrigo, in order to repair the fortifications, and put it in a defensible state; and then, placing it under the command of a Spanish Governor, he withdrew to Freynada. Badajos was the next object of his arms; and after making due preparations, he moved from Freynada on the 6th of March, and arrived at Elvas on the 11th. At this time there were none of the enemy's troops in the field in Estremadura, except a part of the 5th corps at Villa-Franca, and a division under Gen. Darican, at La Serena. On the 15th and 16th his Lordship broke up the cantonments of the army, and invested Badajos on both sides the Guadiana, on the 16th. On the following day he broke ground, and established the first parallel. A sortie was made by the garrison on the

19th, which was presently repulsed without having effected any thing. At the time of the investment, General Sir Thomas Graham crossed the Guadiana, with a body of troops, and directed his march towards Llerena; whilst Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, who had returned from Miranda to his cantonments near Albuquerque, marched again to that town. The operations of the siege were carried on without intermission, notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, and the swelling of the Guadiana, which damaged the bridges of communication; and, on the 25th, a fire was opened from 28 pieces of ordnance, in six batteries. On the evening of that day, a strong out-work, called la Picurina, was gallantly stormed by a body of 500 men, who firmly established themselves in it. On March the 31st, a fire was opened from 26 pieces of cannon, in the second parallel, which was continued with great effect. A second sortie was driven in with loss. At this time the movements of Generals Sir Thomas Graham and Sir Rowland Hill had obliged the enemy to retire towards Cordova; but intelligence had been received that Marshal Soult had broke up from before Cadiz on the 23d and 24th, and marched upon Seville with all the troops that were there, with the exception of 4,000. The further particulars of the siege will be found in the dispatch copied from the London Gazette, and a concise narrative of the result will suffice for an historical relation. Breaches being made in the bastions of la Trinidad and Santa Maria, Lord Wellington determined to attack the place on the night of April the 6th.

6th. Simultaneous attacks of different parts of the works were planned; of which, that of the castle of Badajos by escalade, conducted by Lieutenant-General Picton, was the first that succeeded, and the third division was established in it at about half past eleven. In the mean time the breaches in the bastions were vigorously assaulted by the 4th and the light divisions; but such were the obstacles raised by the enemy upon and behind the breaches, and so obstinate their resistance, that the assailants, after a long contest, and considerable loss, were ordered to retreat. The possession of the castle, however, which was secured by the success of the other divisions, decided the fate of the town, for it commanded all the works both of and in the place; and at day-light General Philippon, the Commandant, who had retired to Fort St. Christoval, surrendered, with all the staff, and the whole garrison. These, at the beginning of the siege, had consisted of 5,000 men; but about 1,200 had been killed and wounded during the operations of the siege, besides those who perished in the assault. The total loss of the besiegers in killed, wounded, and missing, from the investment to the capture, amounted to upwards of 4,850, British and Portuguese. This might perhaps be thought a dear purchase; but besides the glory to the allied arms in gaining this second strong place by storm, the possession of two important fortresses on the frontiers of Portugal was of so much consequence to the security of that kingdom, and to the success of future operations in the peninsula, that, in a military consideration, it jus-

tified the payment of a high price.

In order to make a diversion in favour of the garrison of Badajos, Marshal Marmont advanced to Ciudad Rodrigo, and kept it blockaded: at the same time, a French party made a reconnoissance upon Almeida, but were so received that they had no inclination to make an attempt upon the place. On April the 17th, Marmont broke up from the neighbourhood of Ciudad Rodrigo, and proceeded to Sabugal. His advanced guard followed Gen. Alten through the lower Beira as far as Castello Branco, which it entered on the 12th, but whence it retired on the 14th, and the place was repossessed by Alten and Gen. le Cor.

Soult, who had advanced from Seville into Estremadura, as far as Villa-Franca, on hearing of the fall of Badajos, retreated on the 9th towards the borders of Andalusia. General Graham directed Sir Stapleton Cotton to follow his rear with the cavalry; and coming up with the French cavalry at Villa Garcia, with the brigades of Generals le Marchant and Anson, he defeated them on the 11th, with a considerable loss in killed and prisoners. The French retired on that day from Llerena, and afterwards entirely quitted Estremadura. Lord Wellington, as soon as he was apprized of Soult's retreat, put his army in motion towards Castille.

During this period the Spanish parties were extremely active in different quarters. That distinguished Guerilla chief, Espo y Mina, was successful in various encounters in Navarre, and the neighbouring districts, and when apparently surrounded by different de-

tachments of the enemy, contrived to escape through the midst of them, and became as formidable as before. General Ballasteros, who had been declared Captain-General of Andalusia, on the 14th of April surprised and destroyed a column under General Rey, Merino, an enterprising chief, suddenly attacked a considerable body of the enemy near Aranda, on April the 16th, and made upwards of 500 prisoners, with several officers. This success gave him an opportunity of making a just, though severe, retaliation for the execution of three members of the junta of Burgos by the enemy, and of some of Merino's soldiers who had fallen into their hands: twenty prisoners were put to death for each of the former, and ten for each of the latter. On the other hand, the French, collecting in force on the borders of Galicia, made a feint of attacking that province, to favour their design of re-entering that of Asturias, which they effected on May the 17th, under General Bonnet, and took up their former quarters in Oviedo, Grado, and Gijon.

On April the 24th, Lord Wellington was at Alfayates, on the Portuguese border, the enemy having retired upon his advance. They had crossed the Agueda on the 23rd, and were then in full retreat towards the Tormes. General Drouet was at that time at Fuente Ovejuna, in Cordova, and Marshal Soult at Seville. His Lordship, on the day of the above date, dispatched Sir Rowland Hill to carry into execution the plan of an attack upon the enemy's posts and establishments at the passage of the Tagus, at Almaraz, in Estre-

madura, near the border of New Castile. This post afforded the only good military communication below Toledo across the Tagus, and from that river to the Guadiana, all the permanent bridges below that of Arzobispo having been destroyed in the operations of the war, and left unrepaired. The bridge at Almaraz was protected by strong works thrown up by the French on both sides of the river, and was further covered on the southern side by the castle and redoubts of Mirabete, about a league distant, commanding the pass of that name, through which runs the only carriage road to the bridge, which is that to Madrid.

The necessary preparations for this expedition would not permit General Hill to begin his march from Almendralejo till the 12th of May. On the 16th, he formed his force into three columns, the left directed against the Castle of Mirabete; the right, against the forts of the bridge; and the center, to the high road leading to the pass of Mirabete. The approach was so difficult, that it was day-break on the 19th, before the attack could be made. The right column, provided with scaling ladders, moved to the assault of Fort Napoleon, a strong fortress on the left bank of the river. The ardour of the troops broke through all obstacles, and in the midst of a destructive fire they rushed on with fixed bayonets, and drove the garrison through the several intrenchments across the bridge, which, having been cut on the other side, obliged many of the fugitives to leap into the river, where they perished. The panic communicated itself to the garri-

son of Fort Ragusa, on the right bank, who abandoned their works, and fled in great confusion. The victors then effected the destruction of all the material parts of the forts and works for the defence of the bridge, and made prize of the magazines and 18 pieces of cannon, with 259 prisoners. The attack upon Mirabete served only as a diversion, inducing the enemy to believe that the attack upon the forts near the bridge would not commence till that was decided. In this spirited exploit the British loss in killed and wounded fell short of 200. For further particulars we refer to the Gazette account. General Hill then returned to Alمندralejo.

The southern point of Andalusia continued to be the scene of actions between the French and Spaniards. General Ballasteros on the 1st of June, sustained a very severe engagement against a French division, under Gen. Coursoux, in the plains of Bornos, which finally terminated in the defeat of the Spaniards, who lost from 1,000 to 1,500 men in killed and wounded. Ballasteros, however, retired no farther than to his ground before the battle, and was not molested in his retreat.

A combined attack upon the French troops in possession of the post of Lequitio in Biscay, by the Guerillas, assisted by Sir Home Popham's squadron, took place on the 21st of June, and succeeded, with the capture of the garrison of the fort commanding the place.

Attention was now chiefly fixed upon the allied army of Lord Wellington, which had been for some time advancing upon the French under Marmont. It crossed the

Agueda on June 13th, and arrived in front of Salamanca on the 16th. The enemy on its approach retreated across the Tormes, leaving about 800 men in some forts constructed upon the ruins of colleges and convents in Salamanca. The allied army entered the city, but Lord Wellington found it necessary to break ground against the forts. Marmont at this time was retiring upon the Douro. In Estremadura, Major-general Slade's brigade of cavalry had fallen in with two French regiments of dragoons, which they broke; but pursuing incautiously they were attacked by the enemy's reserve, and driven back with considerable loss. The forces under Marshal Soult and General Drouet had made a junction, and moved forward to Llerena and St. Olalla; upon which, General Hill had called in his detachments, and concentrated his forces at Albuera.

The batteries against the forts of Salamanca began to fire on the 17th. Marmont, on the 20th, made a forward movement in order to communicate with the forts, and on the night of the 21st his troops established a post on the right flank of the allied army. Lord Wellington having directed General Graham to attack this position on the 22nd, the enemy were driven from the ground with considerable loss. They then made a fresh movement, the object of which was, to communicate with their garrisons by the left bank of the Tormes, which river they crossed in force on the 24th; but the approach of General Graham on that side the river caused them to retire to their former position. Meantime the siege of the forts did

did not proceed with the rapidity that Lord Wellington had expected. An attempt to storm the principal work on the night of the 23rd failed of success, with considerable loss; Major-general Bowes was among the slain. On the 27th, the buildings in the largest fort, St. Vincente, being set on fire by the guns of the besiegers, and a breach being made in another fort, the commander of St. Vincente, in order to gain time, expressed a desire to capitulate after a certain number of hours. Lord Wellington, however, perceiving his object, ordered an immediate storm of the two other forts, which succeeded; and the commander of St. Vincente then sent a flag to notify the surrender of that fort, on the terms of the garrison being prisoners of war, which was accepted, though the storm of the place had commenced. These forts were found to be so strongly constructed, that they could not possibly be taken without a regular attack. They cost the allies above 450 in killed and wounded. Upon the intelligence of this event, the French army retired. Lord Wellington on July 1st broke up his camp, and advanced towards the French, who were marching upon Tordesillas. Sir Stapleton Cotton attacked their rear-guard on the 2nd, and drove it in to their main body, but the rest of the allied army were too far distant to impede them in their passage of the Douro, after which they took a position on that river, with their center at Tordesillas. Lord Wellington took post at Rueda. On the 7th the French were reinforced by the junction of General Bonnet, who had advanced from Asturias. They

afterwards extended to their right as far as Toro, where they employed themselves in repairing the bridge which they had before demolished. General Hill at this time had left Albuera, and moved towards the enemy, who retired before him towards Cordova. He had reached Llerena on the 9th.

Marmont now turned upon the allies, and assumed the part of an assailant. He sent a considerable body over the Douro at Toro on the 16th, while Lord Wellington on that night moved the allied army to their left, with the intention of concentrating on the Guarena, a river that runs into the Douro. The French on the same night recrossed at Toro, and Marmont moved his whole army to Tordesillas, where, on the 17th, he again crossed the Douro, and on the same day assembled his troops at Nava del Rey. Various movements then succeeded between the two armies; and the French, on the 18th, made an attack on a body stationed at Castrejon under the command of Sir Stapleton Cotton, who resisted till the cavalry joined him, and then retreated in excellent order to the main army on the Guarena. The enemy then crossed that river, and indicated an intention of pressing upon the left of the allied army, but it was defeated by a timely attack made by General Allen's brigade of cavalry, supported by a body of infantry. In this affair a French general was taken, with other prisoners. A variety of other movements were made, in which it was the object of Marmont to cut off the allies from their communication with Salamanca and Ciudad Rodrigo, and

of Lord Wellington to frustrate this purpose. On the 21st the allied army was concentrated on the Tormes, and the enemy had moved towards the same river.

Two armies moving in such a confined space of ground could not be long without coming to a general engagement; and this result was hastened by the intelligence Lord Wellington received on the night of the 21st, that General Chauvel had arrived at Pollos on the 20th with the cavalry and horse artillery of the northern army, to join Marmont, which he would effect within a day or two. Of the subsequent manœuvres no exact idea can be formed without plans, and we refer to the gazette account for the particulars. It was evidently the English commander's object to find a favourable opportunity for an attack; and this he obtained in the afternoon of the 22nd, by an extension of the enemy's line to the left in order to embrace a post on a hill occupied by the right of the allies. Lord Wellington then, strengthening his right, ordered an attack on the enemy's left, which completely succeeded; as did likewise an attack on the front, in which they were driven successively from height to height. The fate of the battle was for a time suspended by the stand made by a French division, which drove back a division of the allied army, but some troops being brought up in time, success was restored in this quarter. The enemy's right, reinforced by the fugitives from their left, continued to resist, till it was dark, when they at length broke and fled, and the discomfiture of the French army was now complete.

They were pursued as long as any of them were to be seen together, but the darkness of the night favoured the escape of many. At break of day the pursuit was renewed; and the cavalry crossing the Tormes, the enemy's rear-guard was overtaken, when their cavalry fled, leaving the infantry to its fate. The pursuit was afterwards continued to Penaranda that night; and on the 24th the victors were still pursuing the flying enemy.

Such was the battle of Salamanca, the most considerable and glorious fought under English command during the present war in Spain. No estimate could be made of the enemy's loss in the field, which was undoubtedly great. The trophies of victory were returned at eleven pieces of cannon, several ammunition waggons, two eagles, and six colours; prisoners, one general, three colonels, three lieutenant-colonels, 130 officers of inferior rank, and between 6 and 7,000 soldiers; and many more prisoners continued to be brought in on the following days. Marshal Marmont was severely wounded, and four French general officers were said to have been killed. The loss on the part of the allies was also considerable, amounting, in killed, wounded, and missing, British and Portuguese, to about 5,200. One general officer, Major-general le Marchant, was killed, and five others were wounded. Of the small share the Spaniards had in this action, fought on their ground, and for their cause, a judgment may be formed from their return of loss, consisting of two killed and four wounded.

The victorious army continued
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its march after the enemy, part of whom crossed the Douro at Puente de Douro on the 27th, and the remainder proceeded to the bridge of Tudela over that river. It appears that on the 21st Joseph Buonaparté left Madrid with the army of the center directing his march by the Escorial upon Alba de Tormes; but hearing on the 25th of Marmont's defeat, he retreated towards Segovia. Nothing, therefore, could be more timely than Lord Wellington's victory, as the delay of a very few days would materially have strengthened the French army. The rear-guard of the fugitives maintained itself in some strength on the left bank of the Douro during the 28th and 29th: but on the approach of the light divisions and cavalry of the pursuers, it crossed the river, and followed the motions of the main body, abandoning Valladolid, in which they left seventeen pieces of cannon, much ammunition, and their hospital with about 800 sick and wounded. Parties of the allied army entered that city on the 30th, where they were received with enthusiastic joy. The central French army, in the meantime, had arrived at Segovia, with the apparent intention of making a junction with Marmont's on the Upper Douro. To prevent this, Lord Wellington moved on August 1st to Cuellar. On the same day Joseph Buonaparte retired from Segovia and marched through the pass of Guadarama, leaving an advanced guard of cavalry. He destroyed the cannon and ammunition which were in the castle, carried off the church plate and other valuable property, and levied a contribution on the inhabitants.

Advices from General Hill at this time mentioned a brisk action between the allied and French cavalry in the neighbourhood of Ribera, terminating in favour of the former.

Lord Wellington finding that Marmont's beaten army continued its retreat upon Burgos, in a state not likely to take the field again for some time, determined either to bring king Joseph to an action, or compel him to quit the capital. He accordingly moved from Cuellar on August 6th, reached Segovia on the 7th, and halted the following day at St. Ildefonso. The advanced cavalry, after passing the Guadarama, moved forwards on the 11th, and driving in the French cavalry, about 2,000 in number, established itself at Majalahonda, under Brig.-general d'Urban. The enemy's cavalry returned in the afternoon; when general d'Urban, having formed the Portuguese cavalry, supported by the horse artillery, ordered a charge upon the leading squadrons of the French. The valour of the Portuguese, however, notwithstanding the exertions of their officers, gave way, and they turned about before they reached the enemy. They fled through the village of Majalahonda to a body of dragoons of the German legion, leaving unprotected some guns, which fell into the hands of their pursuers. The German cavalry bravely made a charge and stopped the French, who, upon the advance of other troops, finally retreated; but considerable loss was incurred in this unfortunate affair. The army moved forwards, and on the 12th two of its divisions entered Madrid, where they were received with extraordinary marks
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of joy. Joseph had retired with the army of the centre by the Toledo road, leaving a garrison in fort la China in the palace of la Retiro.

On the evening of the 13th la Retiro was invested, and preparation was made for attacking the works on the next morning, when the commandant of la China sent an offer of capitulation. The honours of war were granted him, upon surrendering the whole garrison and all the persons in the fort prisoners, with all its magazines and artillery. The total number of prisoners of all descriptions amounted to 2,500. Of brass ordnance 189 pieces were found, with a great quantity of ammunition, stores, provisions, and clothing. Such were the first fruits of the victory of Salamanca,

In the south-east of Spain the cause suffered a reverse by the repulse of an attack upon General d'Harispe's posts at Castalla and Ybi in Valencia. General O'Donnel, with the army of Murcia, attacked the post of Castalla on July 21st, but was defeated with the loss of about 3,500 men. His retreat was covered by General Roche, who had advanced from Alicant to co-operate in the enterprise. On August 10th General Maitland, with an expedition sent by sea from Sicily, after hovering for several days on the coasts of Catalonia and Valencia, and making demonstrations of landing in various parts, disembarked at Alicant.

Astorga, which had been long under siege by the Spaniards, capitulated on August 18th, its garrison, consisting of three battalions, surrendering prisoners of war, upon the condition of being exchanged,

as soon as circumstances should permit, for Spanish prisoners. The French General Foy, who marched from Valladolid with a considerable force to raise the blockades of Toro and Zamora, and the siege of Astorga, arrived too late for the latter purpose, though he effected the others.

The desertion of the long-continued blockade of Cadiz by the French, was another important consequence of Lord Wellington's victory. This city, the seat of the Spanish legitimate government, had for some years been in a state which rendered its inhabitants prisoners on the land side, and subjected them to much distress from scarcity and sickness. This was aggravated by the sense of danger from a bombardment, which, though distant, had latterly, by means of improvements in destructive contrivance, become more serious. All the attempts of the Spaniards themselves to break up the blockade had failed; and even when the enemy had been obliged to withdraw the greatest part of their troops, the strength of the works discouraged any effort to force them. But at this period, the advance of the allied army to the centre of the kingdom, and the weakened state of the invaders in the east, whence many veteran corps had been recalled to augment the mighty army destined against Russia, rendered it no longer safe to carry on operations at so many detached points, and concentration of force was now become necessary. On the night of the 24th and morning of the 25th of August, the French abandoned their works opposite to Cadiz and the Isla, except the town of port Santa

Santa Maria, where a body of troops remained till the middle of the day, and then withdrew to Cartuga. Before the besiegers departed, they employed themselves in destroying all the forts and batteries in the lines, affording a grand and gratifying spectacle to Cadiz of immense fires and successive explosions. They left behind them a very numerous artillery, mostly rendered unserviceable, and a large quantity of stores and powder unconsumed, testifying the precipitation with which the retreat was made.

On August 11th in the morning, the French evacuated Bilbao, and on the same and the following day it was occupied by Spanish troops. On the 13th however, a French force of 3,000 men, under General Rouget, advanced from Durango to recover the town. They gained possession of its two bridges, but were attacked in their position on the 14th by a force under General Renovales, who compelled them to make a precipitate retreat towards Zornoza. On the 21st the French again advanced towards Bilbao with an additional force, and made a vigorous attempt to re-enter it, which was resisted by Generals Mendizabel and Renovales, and terminated in a defeat of the assailants, who hastily retreated with considerable loss to Durango.

Immediately after the evacuation of the lines of Cadiz, the city of Seville was also freed from the invaders. On August 27, a combined force under General La Gruz and Colonel Skerret entered Seville, in which were eight French battalions of infantry and two regiments of cavalry; and after a tu-

multuary fight in the streets, on the bridge, and in the suburbs, the French were driven out, leaving horses, baggage, and effects, and about two hundred prisoners. The inhabitants were so zealous in their country's cause, that they rushed forward in the midst of a heavy fire to lay planks across the broken bridge for the passage of the allied troops. About the same time the French evacuated the city and castle of Arcos, in Andalusia, and all the line from Guadalete to Ronda, blowing up their fortifications, and destroying cannon and ammunition.

Marshal Massena was now expected from France, to take the command of the army of Portugal (so called by the French), and it became necessary for Lord Wellington to attend closely to its motions. He accordingly quitted Madrid on the 1st of September, having previously ordered his troops to be collected at Arevalo. From that place the army moved on the 4th, and on the 6th crossed the Douro. It advanced into Valladolid, the enemy retiring before it on the Pisuerga, which river they crossed.

At this time, Joseph Buonaparté had made a junction with Marshal Suchet in Valencia. The latter was posted upon the Xucar, watching the troops under General Maitland, which, after an advance from Alicante, had retreated, and were cantoned in the villages about that city. Marshal Soult was in Granada: he had been followed by Ballasteros, who had been successful in harassing his rear. Cordova and Jaen were cleared of the invaders. General Sir Rowland Hill was at Truxillo, whence he was to advance to Oropesa.

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Lord Wellington continued following the enemy who were retiring upon Burgos; and on the 16th he was joined by three divisions of infantry and a small body of cavalry of the Gallician army under General Castanos. On the 17th the enemy were driven to the heights close to Burgos, through which city they retired in the night, leaving behind them some stores and a quantity of provision. A considerable garrison was placed in the castle of Burgos which commands the passage of the river, and retarded the crossing of the allied army till the 19th. The French had also fortified with a horn-work the hill of St. Michael, three hundred yards from the castle, and commanding some of its works. The possession of this hill was a necessary preliminary to an attack on the castle; its outworks were therefore immediately occupied by the allied troops; and as soon as it was dark, an assault was made on the horn-work, which was carried, but not without considerable loss.

On the night of the 22nd, Lord Wellington directed that an attempt should be made to storm the exterior line of the enemy's works. The attack was to have been made by detachments of the Portuguese who occupied the town of Burgos, and invested the castle on the south-west side, while a detachment of English under Major Laurie should scale the wall in front. The Portuguese unfortunately were not able to overcome the opposition they met with, and the escalade could not take place. The loss on this failure was severe. The French army was now about Pancorbo and Miranda on the Ebro, with their advanced post at Breviesca.

A mine which had been laid under the exterior line of the castle exploded on the night of the 29th, and made a breach in the wall, which a party of the assailants immediately attempted to storm; but the darkness causing the detachment which was meant to support them to miss its way, they were driven off. The superiority of the enemy's fire afterwards prevented the construction of batteries for widening the breach. A second mine, however, being sprung on October 4th, another breach was made, which was immediately stormed with success, and the allied troops established themselves within the exterior line. The French were still upon the Ebro, and made no effort to disturb the besiegers. Some days previously, General Hill was on the Tagus between Aranjuez and Toledo. Balasteros was at Granada, which had been quitted by Soult, who marched on through Murcia to make a junction with King Joseph.

The garrison of the Castle of Burgos made sorties on the 6th, and the 10th, in which they considerably injured the works of the allies, and occasioned some loss of men; the besiegers, however, effected a breach in the interior line, and lodged some troops close to it. Things continued nearly in the same state till the 18th, when Lord Wellington having received a supply of ammunition, and completed another mine, determined upon storming the breach in the second line as soon as that should explode. The attempt was made with great gallantry, but the fire of the enemy directed to the spot was so powerful, that the assailants were obliged to retire with considerable loss.

loss. The hopes of final success now grew fainter, especially as the French army began to make demonstrations of a serious design to raise the siege. The army of Portugal had been reinforced by fresh troops from France, and by all the disposable part of the army of the North, and was now in formidable strength. On the 13th they had made a reconnoissance of the allied outposts at Monasterio; and on the 18th they had made an attack in force, and gained possession of the heights commanding that town, whence the outpost had been obliged to retire. They afterwards attempted to drive in other outposts, but for the time were repulsed. General Hill now sent intelligence of the enemy's intentions on his side to move towards the Tagus; and it was become necessary for Lord Wellington to be near him, that their two armies might not be insulated and rendered incapable of communication. His lordship therefore found it advisable to take the mortifying step, on the night of the 20th, of breaking up the siege, and moving his whole army back to the Douro. He affirms, that he was never very sanguine in his hopes of success in this siege, though the advantage he would have derived from the possession of the place appeared to justify a trial. He probably depended upon a coup de main, his artillery being apparently inadequate to regular operations. The time lost before Burgos was, however, a serious evil, by allowing the enemy to collect all his force, and was probably decisive of the remainder of the campaign,

The retreat was at first unperceived by the enemy, who did not follow till late on the 22nd, They

afterwards pressed close on the rear of the allied army, making attacks with their cavalry and light troops whenever they had an opportunity, in which considerable losses were sustained. On the 24th the army took up its ground on the Carrion; and on the 26th reached Cabecon, where it crossed the Pisuerga. The enemy having found means to pass that river, Lord Wellington broke up from Cabecon, and crossed the Douro on the 29th. Finding that the French were in full march to Tordesillas, he marched again on the 20th, and posted his army on the heights between Rueda and that town opposite to the bridge. He continued in that position on November 3rd, the enemy having made no attempt to cross the Douro, along which river their army was extended from Toro to Valladolid. The allied troops were withdrawn from Madrid, having first destroyed the fort of La China, and all the stores and guns it contained, which had not been carried away. A body of the enemy entered that capital on November 1. Sir Rowland Hill, who had retired from the Tagus, and taken post on the Jacama, was directed to quit that position, and march northwards; and in the beginning of November he arrived unmolested on the Adaja.

The bridge of Toro having been repaired by the enemy sooner than Lord Wellington had expected, he directed Sir Rowland Hill to continue his march upon Alba de Tormes, and on November 6th he himself broke up from his position before Tordesillas, and proceeded for the heights of St. Christoval in front of Salamanca. On the 8th he
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took his position on those heights ; and upon the same day General Hill occupied the town and castle of Alba, posting troops on the Tormes to support them. The enemy, on the 10th, having brought up their forces near the positions of the allies on the Tormes, attacked the troops in Alba with a considerable body of infantry, and twenty pieces of cannon : but finding that they made no impression, they withdrew at night. On the 14th, the enemy having crossed the Tormes in force, Lord Wellington broke up from St. Christoval, and moved with an intention to attack them ; but finding them too strongly posted, he withdrew all the troops from the neighbourhood of Alba to the Aripiles, or heights near Salamanca which had been the scene of his victory. Finding, on the 15th, that the enemy were strengthening their positions, and pushing on bodies to interrupt the communications of the allied army with Ciudad Rodrigo, his lordship determined to move upon that place, which he reached on the 19th, followed by a large body of the enemy, which, however, did not press upon his rear. Some loss was sustained from a cannonade in passing a river ; and Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Paget had the misfortune to be taken prisoner, as he was riding alone through a wood. Lord Wellington had reason to believe that the whole of the enemy's disposable force was upon the Tormes in the middle of this month, and he computed them at 80 or 90,000 men, with 200 pieces of cannon. On the 24th of November, the head-quarters of the allies were again established at Freynada on

the Portuguese frontier, and the greater part of the enemy's forces had re-crossed the Tormes, and were marching towards the Douro. General Hill had withdrawn southwards to Coria, in Estremadura.

Such, in its main points, was the peninsular campaign of the year 1812 ; for the numerous conflicts between the Guerilla parties and the scattered forces of the invaders, besides that they are represented in totally different colours by the several antagonists, had too little influence on the general result to require a particular narrative. It will be seen, that the vigorous efforts made by Lord Wellington to penetrate to the centre of Spain, and take advantage of the weakened condition of the French, whose ruler had in this year directed the chief force of his empire to a very distant quarter, formed the great chain of events. They obliged the invaders to withdraw their forces from the southern provinces, to break up the lines of Cadiz, which had so long held the Spanish government in inglorious fetters, to remain merely on the defensive on the eastern coast after the capture of Valencia, and to concentrate all their disposable force against the progress of the conqueror at Salamanca. That they were at last successful, and that the high hopes of the British nation, elevated by repeated triumph, were finally frustrated, only proves that the strength and activity of the French in Spain were greater than had been calculated upon, and, probably, that the exertions of the Spaniards were as much less. The conduct of Lord Wellington obtained universal applause and admiration from his countrymen

countrymen, and was repaid by more honours and rewards than had been bestowed on any British general since the time of Marlborough. In the course of the year he added to his former titles those of Earl and Marquess, and received from parliament the most substantial proofs of the nation's gratitude. That he could have done more than he effected, no one has ventured to surmise; but whether it was within the duty, or the power of the English ministry to have placed him at the head of a greater force, will be differently judged of according to the opinion formed of the importance of the contest, and the resources of the country. That his army must have been much diminished by the severe service to which it was put, could not be doubted; and they who were acquainted with its state must have been apprized of its inadequacy to effect the great things which were fondly expected from it; at the same time, so many other demands pressed upon the purse and the population of Great Britain, and its internal condition was so disturbed, that it is not extraordinary if supplies to maintain this distant war were dealt with a sparing hand.

The public has never been acquainted with the extent of the losses sustained by the allied army in this campaign; but there is no doubt that they must have been very considerable. In particular, its retreat from Burgos to its winter quarters, pursued by a superior and enterprising foe, though conducted with great military skill, could not fail of being very disastrous. But more than its loss of men, horses, and equipage, is to be lamented the stain incurred by its

character on the occasion; a stain impressed by the commander-in-chief himself. Lord Wellington, in an address to his army, has, in the face of his country, and all Europe, reproached it with a want of discipline, greater, he says, than any army with which he had ever served, or of which he had ever read. He proceeds: "It must be obvious to every officer, that from the moment the troops commenced their retreat from the neighbourhood of Burgos on the one hand, and from Madrid on the other, the officers lost all command over their men. Irregularities and outrages of all descriptions were committed with impunity; and losses have been sustained which ought never to have occurred." It is to be hoped that his lordship's feelings have given a degree of exaggeration to his expressions; otherwise it is difficult to conceive how such troops can recover the esteem of their countrymen, or deserve the confidence of their allies.

We shall now take a view of the transactions of the Spanish Cortes and government during a period so fertile of important events to the nation. That many persons were dissatisfied with the proceedings of the Cortes, and were probably jealous of a design of that body, to perpetuate its power under a republican constitution, appeared from a speech of one of the members, Senor Vera, on December 29. After a severe censure of their conduct, he moved the following propositions: 1. That a new regency should be forthwith appointed, and at its head a personage of the royal family, invested with the full powers of king according to the constitution. 2. That such person be empowered

empowered to treat with friendly or neutral powers with regard to the maintenance of the armies. 3. That within the period of one month precisely, the discussions on the constitution be terminated, the regency be appointed, and the congress be dissolved. 4. That the Cortes do not re-assemble till the year 1813, according to the constitution. A warm discussion then took place, in which the eloquent and patriotic Senor Arguelles appeared as the principal defender of the Cortes. On the succeeding day he moved the following counter-propositions: 1. That no royal person be placed at the head of the regency in the absence of Ferdinand VII. 2. That the ordinary Cortes be convoked at the precise period required by the constitution, and that the existing Cortes do not separate till the regency is arranged, the council of state, and the supreme tribunal of justice appointed, and the general treasury and the tribunal of exchequer accounts organized. 3. That on the dissolution of the Cortes, a deputation of sixty of their body remain, clothed with ample powers for watching over the constitution, &c. till the next Cortes be assembled. 4. That a special committee be appointed to devise the proper means for bringing to a speedy issue the great object of organizing the government.

The issue of this debate was, that the propositions of Vera were rejected, and those of Arguelles appointed for discussion.

On the 2nd of January the Cortes discussed a project presented for the improvement of the system of government, when the following propositions were approved: That

in the present circumstances there shall be appointed twenty counselors of state, of whom two only shall be ecclesiastics; two only grandees of Spain: and the sixteen others taken from persons who serve, or have served, in diplomatic, military, economic, or magisterial offices; and who have distinguished themselves by their talents, knowledge, or services: of these, at least six from the provinces beyond the seas. A number of articles were then read and approved respecting the obligations and powers of the regency.

The change of the regency soon took place, in which the Duke del Infantado, then resident minister in England, was declared president, and the count of Lavistal (O'Donnel) vice-president. The members of the late regency were nominated counsellors of state. The new regency, on January 23, issued an address to the Spanish nation, urging them in energetic language to make every possible exertion for the safety and independence of the country, and not concealing the imminent dangers with which it was surrounded. The actions of this body corresponded with their words; they were vigorous, prompt, and decisive: a variety of reforms were made, and attention was particularly paid to recruiting and disciplining the regular army, and to the formation of officers fit to be intrusted with command.

The regency, in March, directed a circular address to the people of Spanish America, setting forth to them the arduous struggle in which the mother country was engaged with an implacable foe, and the salutary labours of the Cortes in forming

ing a constitution for the general benefit; and expressing their hope that their American brethren would aid the cause by a voluntary subscription among all ranks and classes, to be deposited in the royal chests, and remitted to Spain.

The Cortes, about this time, gave a further proof of the liberality of their sentiments, by a decree to enable all Spanish subjects of Moorish origin, either by the father's or mother's side, to take degrees in the universities, and to enter the religious orders, or the priesthood — privileges, of which former bigotry had deprived them.

The 18th of March presented an august and interesting spectacle to the citizens of Cadiz, and to all the Spaniards assembled for the purpose of witnessing the completion of the labours of their representatives. On that day the general and extraordinary Cortes held a solemn sitting for the purpose of a public signature of the articles of the constitution. Deputies from all parts of the Spanish monarchy were present, and 184 persons signed two copies of the constitution. A decree which had been approved at a secret sitting was then read, relative to the succession to the crown, the object of which was to guard against its coming into the possession of those who were justly considered as enemies to the national independence. It was to the following effect: "The general and extraordinary Cortes, considering that the welfare and security of the state are incompatible with the concurrence of circumstances in the persons of the Infant Don Francisco de Paula, and the Infanta Donna Maria Louisa, Queen of Etruria, brother and sister of

Don Ferdinand VII. have resolved to declare and decree, that the Infant Don Francisco de Paula, and his descendants, and the Infanta Donna Maria Louisa and her descendants, remain excluded from the succession to the crown of the Spains. In consequence, in default of the Infant Don Carlos Maria and his legitimate descendants, the Infanta Donna Carlotta Joaquina, Princess of the Brazils, and her legitimate descendants, shall come to the succession of the crown; and in default of her heirs, then Donna Maria Isabel, hereditary Princess of the two Sicilies, and her legitimate descendants; and in default of these three nearest relatives of Ferdinand VII. and their descendants, then shall succeed the other persons and lines who ought to succeed according to the constitution, in the order and form which it has established. At the same time the Cortes declare and decree excluded from the succession to the crown of the Spains the Archduchess of Austria, Donna Maria Louisa, daughter of Francis II. Emperor of Austria, by his first marriage, as also the descendants of the said archduchess."

A commission was then appointed to carry the constitution to the regency, which received it with profound respect, and engaged to guarantee its observance in all the Spanish dominions. On March 20th, all the deputies assembled in the hall of congress to swear to the constitution; which being performed, the regency entered the hall, and with due solemnity took the oath of office prescribed in the 173d article of the constitution. The president of the Cortes then addressed the regency, and was replied

replied to by the president of that body; and the day closed with a solemn proclamation of the constitution, and a grand dinner, at which the British ambassador was a conspicuous guest.

In May, the Regency caused to be published a decree of the general and extraordinary Cortes, signifying, that, as it is provided in the constitution that the Cortes be assembled every year, and that the observance of this rule could never be more necessary than in the present circumstances of the nation, the ordinary Cortes is to be convoked for the year 1813; but that as it is impossible that the deputies from the more distant parts can be assembled by the 1st of March, the opening is deferred to the 1st of October. It is also a regulation, that no deputy for the present extraordinary Cortes can be elected for the ensuing ordinary Cortes.

The Cortes passed a decree in June, detailing the mode of applying to the wants of the state such part of the tithes as exceed what is necessary for the maintenance of those who hold them. The juntas in the provinces were to assign the several quotas, and the intendants to levy them. In this month the Duke de Infantado arrived at Cadiz, and took his seat as president of the Regency.

At a sitting of the Cortes in October, Senor Castello made a long and well-reasoned discourse concerning the inhumanity and injustice of that regulation in the American colonies called the Mitas, by which each district is required to contribute a certain number of men for the cultivation of the land, the working of mines, and other

task labour; and after a full discussion of the subject, the following propositions were put to the vote, and unanimously approved: 1. That the Mitas should be for ever abolished: 2. That the Indians should be exempted from the personal service they gave the clergy, or any other public functionary whatever; obliging them, nevertheless, to satisfy the parochial rights, in the same manner as the other classes: 3. That the public charges, such as the rebuilding of churches, and making roads, should be equally borne by all the inhabitants indiscriminately: 4. That divisions of lands should be made to the Indians, leaving to the provincial deputies the care of assigning the quotas: 5. That in all the American territories, some of the dignities should necessarily remain with the Indians. The policy as well as justice of thus endeavouring to conciliate this much-injured part of the colonial population to the mother country, by redressing the cruel wrongs under which it has so long groaned, is evident; and if it has been a consequence of the civil war kindled in those regions between the native and transatlantic Spaniards, the friends of humanity may be gratified by some compensation for the evils of which the war has been the cause.

In the historical account of the last year, notice was taken of the jealousy prevailing in the Spanish nation of any attempt to place their armies under British command. The great success and high merits of Lord Wellington in the campaign of this year overcame, in the general feeling, this repugnance as far as regarded his person; and

and the Cortes, which had elevated him to the rank of a grandee of Spain, at length gave the strongest proof of their esteem and confidence by a resolution declaring him commander-in-chief of the Spanish armies. When, in consequence of this appointment, his lordship sent an order to General Ballasteros, captain general of Andalusia, and undoubtedly one of the most zealous and active of the Spanish commanders, to move his army, that officer felt his honour so much piqued, and considered it as such a national degradation, that he declined obedience. In a letter which he addressed to the war minister on the occasion; he stated in strong terms his sense of this affront, as he understood it, to his countrymen, and concluded with saying, that if the national armies and citizens, on being asked their opinion, should agree to the nomination, he would resign his employments, and retire to his home, in order to convince the world that he was actuated by no private views, but only by a regard to honour, and the good of his country. The Regency, however, would not permit such an infraction of the obedience due to the sovereign authority by any person of whatever rank serving under it; and issued a notice acquainting the public with the discharge of Don Fr. Ballasteros from his command in the army, and the appointment, *ad interim*, of Don Joaquim Virues in his stead. At the same time Ballasteros was put under arrest in the midst of his army, which made no resistance, and received an order to depart for Ceuta. To obviate any unfavourable impres-

sion on the nation from this measure, the secretary at war, on October 30, read before the Cortes a memorial (which was printed) setting forth the deplorable state of the country when the Regency assumed the reins of government, and the additions which had been made to its military force during the present year, with the improvement of its prospects since the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo by Lord Wellington. It also mentioned that orders had been sent to the generals in chief of the armies to act in concert with, and in obedience to, the Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo.

Such was the general state of affairs in Spain towards the close of 1812; meliorated, no doubt, by the liberation of the seat of government from a hostile blockade, and by the recovery of several of the southern provinces from the yoke of the invader; but manifestly displaying the necessity of much more vigorous and combined efforts on the part of the nation to effect the expulsion of the foe, and secure its independence, than have yet been made, even upon the supposition that the French arms shall continue to find so much occupation in other parts as to prevent any considerable recruit to their force in the Peninsula. A plan has since been opened by Lord Wellington, of a connected system of military command and operation through the whole country, which, if carried into execution, may produce effects much more considerable than can be expected from the desultory efforts of guerillas and detached parties; but whether national jealousies

lousies and prejudices will permit its adoption, seems at the present a matter of doubt.

The kingdom of Portugal during this year enjoyed that exemption from hostile devastations which had been secured by the exertions of its great defender, interrupted only by that irruption of the French into the lower Beira which was intended as a diversion in favour of Badajos, then under siege by Lord Wellington. Opportunity was therefore given for the operations of agriculture, and the other means of recovery from the severe calamities it had undergone; and it cannot be doubted that the sums of money derived from English subsidies, and the expenditure of the English troops in their passage through Lisbon, materially aided the resources of the country. The assiduity of Marshal Beresford and the authority of Lord Wellington had placed the military establishment of Portugal upon a very respectable footing; and before the close of 1811 there were numbered of troops of the line and in garrison above 54,000, of militia 58,000, and of the ordenanza, armed partly with pikes, partly with muskets, above 200,000. Of the regulars, a large proportion served with the allied army in Spain, and on various occasions acquired great credit.

On February 13, the government of Portugal issued a proclamation addressed to the people in general, comparing their past and present state, and although pointing out the improvement of their condition, yet showing the necessity of precautionary measures against such sudden inroads as

might possibly be made by the enemy. Of these, they specify the three following: 1. All persons capable of bearing arms must be exercised in the use of them; and those whose age or sex unfit them for military service, must take measures by anticipation for repairing the places of security in case circumstances shall make it necessary: 2. They must carry off or conceal all money, gold, silver, or jewels which might tempt the avarice of the enemy: 3. They must carefully conceal, or if necessary destroy, all provisions that cannot be carried off, and remove cattle and carriages, in order to deprive the invader of means of subsistence and advance.

That the Portuguese government did not entirely depend upon this country for defraying the expense of a war, a principal object of which was the security of that kingdom, was evinced by the assertion of Lord Liverpool when, in March, a message was brought to parliament from the Prince Regent, recommending the continuance of the subsidy paid to Portugal. His lordship said, that it would be a mistake to suppose that this subsidy of two millions sterling was adequate even to the military expenses of that country; for that its government had advanced, in addition, the sum of 1,800,000*l*.

The treaty of amity, navigation, and commerce between Portugal and Russia, concluded at Petersburg in 1798, now drawing to a termination, a renewal of it was agreed upon by the two parties, to remain in force till June 1815, with no other alteration than an addition to the duty on Portuguese

wines imported into Russia, corresponding to the additional duties since laid upon other wines.

The remainder of the year offers nothing remarkable with respect to this part of the Peninsula, which, partly by the exertions of its own troops under British command, had the satisfaction to see its security

from the common enemy greatly improved during the operations of this campaign, by the recovery of the strong fortresses of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajos from the possession of the French, and their retreat from the other parts of its frontier.

CHAPTER XVII.

France—Decree concerning Valencia—French occupation of Swedish Pomerania—Report by Murat—March of the Army towards Poland—Treaty with Prussia—Decree in favour of America—Napoleon arrives at Dantzic—Negociations—Treaty with Austria—Papers relative to the Differences with Russia—Advance of the French to Wilna—Polish Diet and Confederation—Riga—Alliance between England, Russia, and Sweden—Russians quit their Camp on the Duna, and French cross that River—Various Actions—Dunaberg taken—Smolensko carried by the French—Action of Valentina—Advance towards Moscow—Great Battle of Borodino—French enter Moscow—Conflagration of that Capital—Enterprize of the Garrison of Riga—Alarms at Petersburg—Advanced Guard of the French defeated—Moscow evacuated—Success of Wittgenstein at Polotzk—Conspiracy at Paris—Negociations attempted with the Russians—French retreat—Various Actions—Davoust and Ney defeated—Dreadful sufferings of the French—Napoleon quits the Army, and arrives at Paris—Addresses of the Senate and Council, and Replies—Conclusion.

THE French Emperor, on his return from his tour in the Low Countries at the latter part of 1811, was evidently meditating a grand stroke for the purpose of terminating his differences with the court of Petersburg in a manner conformable to that continental system which he had made the base of his policy; and the fate of the Peninsula was to be a secondary consideration in his councils till the other object was obtained. In the mean time, he was not unmindful of that plan of attaching his generals and soldiers by rewards, at the cost of the vanquished, which has been discernible in all his wars. By a decree issued from the Tuilleries on January 21st, he

declares the annexation to his extraordinary domain of effects in the province of Valencia to the amount of a principal of 200,000,000 liv. ordering at the same time that the Prince of Neufchatel shall transmit to the intendant-general of that domain a statement of the generals, officers, and soldiers of his armies in Spain, particularly in that of Arragon, who have distinguished themselves, in order that they may receive proofs of his imperial munificence.

The first military operation of Napoleon which can be considered as connected with his northern projects, was the occupation of Swedish Pomerania. In January, a body of 20,000 French troops,

as it is said, under General Friant, entered that province. The capital, Stralsund, being very weakly fortified, with a small garrison, made no resistance to a colonel who was sent to take possession of it on the 26th, and who required quarters and provisions, saying, in answer to a demand of payment for the latter, "It is our custom and orders, that the country in which we are should furnish us with every thing needful." Friant entered on the following day; and when the Swedish general Peyron informed him that he should resist the occupation of the Isle of Rugen, the French general told him that he was his prisoner, and put seals on the custom-house. A body of 2,000 men was drawn out with the intention of marching to Rugen over the ice; but the lieutenant who commanded a small fortress there, resolutely declaring that he would repel force by force, they were for the present remanded. The purpose of this unwarrantable seizure of Pomerania was evidently that the French emperor might have a pledge in his hands to influence the conduct of Sweden in the approaching contest. Rugen was afterwards occupied by the French, the vessels and packets on the coast were detained for their service, and the French colours were hoisted in place of the Swedish. In February, a fleet arriving off Stralsund with General Engelbrecht on board, to ascertain the state of the French troops in Pomerania, and bring back those of Sweden, no communication with the shore was permitted, and all correspondence with the general was declined by the French com-

mander, so that the fleet was obliged to sail back without effecting any thing.

The French conservative senate held a sitting on March 10th, at which the Duke of Bassano (Maret), minister for foreign affairs, delivered in a report, the substance of which was, an invective against the maritime policy of England, and an exposition and eulogy of all the measures taken by the Emperor for asserting the liberty of the seas, and retaliating her arbitrary measures. In this piece it is explicitly declared, that "till the British orders of council are rescinded, and the principles of the treaty of Utrecht towards neutrals are again in full vigour, the Berlin and Milan decrees will remain against those powers who allow their flags to be denationalised." A report of the minister of war follows, which begins with telling the Emperor that "the greatest part of his Majesty's troops have been called out of the territory for the defence of the grand interests which are to ensure the preponderance of the empire, and maintain the Milan and Berlin decrees so fatal to England." It goes on to state the inconveniences which have arisen from committing the guard of the maritime places and establishments, during the absence of the troops of the line, to the fifth battalions, depôts, and marine troops; and it proposes a division of the national guards into three bands, of which the first is to be composed of all the conscripts from 1806 to 1812 who have not been called to the army, and have not since married, out of which cohorts are to be formed, constantly under arms

arms, to do the coast duty. This plan was, of course, unanimously adopted in a *senatus-consultum*. It might be regarded as an indication that the whole strength of the French empire was about to be put forth in some mighty effort.

Early in the spring, the French army, united to that of the Confederation of the Rhine, was in march to the frontiers of Poland. At the end of March, the field equipage of Napoleon had reached Dresden, and Marshal Ney had his head-quarters at Wiemar. A portion of the troops of Prussia had been placed at his disposal, the monarch of that country having been induced in this month to ratify a treaty of alliance with the French emperor, which was declared defensive against all the powers in Europe with which either of the contracting parties has entered or shall enter into war, and reciprocally guaranteeing to each other the integrity of their present territory. That the Prussian king hesitated for some time to which of the great powers he should ally himself, since neither of them was likely to suffer him to remain neuter, is very probable, but the rapid advance of the French would soon put an end to his indecision. About this time great changes were making in the French troops quartered in Spain. Some regiments of the imperial guard, and some Polish regiments, which were become veterans by their service in that country, were marched to France, while others, doubtless comparatively raw troops, were in motion to replace them. In the month of April, troops of all the nations under French command were incessantly proceeding to-

wards the Russian border. They crossed the Vistula to the number of 80,000, about the 20th, and afterwards took possession of Elbing and Königsberg.

Napoleon left Paris on the 9th of May, accompanied by the Empress and the Prince of Neufchâtel (Berthier), and proceeded to Metz. Some time before his departure he had issued a decree tending to conciliate the American government to France; the tenor of which was, that in consequence of an act of 2nd of March 1811, by which the Congress of the United States enacted exemptions from the provisions of the non-intercourse act, which prohibit the entrance into the American ports to the ships and goods of Great Britain, of its colonies and dependencies; considering the said law as an act of resistance to the arbitrary pretensions consecrated by the British Orders in Council, and a formal refusal to adhere to a system derogatory to the independence of neutral powers; it is decreed, that the decrees of Berlin and Milan are definitively, and from the 1st of November last, considered as never having taken place with regard to American vessels.

The French emperor and empress reached Dresden on the 16th, where they were to meet the emperor and empress of Germany. Before this time the emperor Alexander, who had left Petersburg on April 21st, was at Wilna, where was General Barclay de Tolly, general-in-chief of the first army of the west. In the beginning of May, the head quarters of the duke of Abrantes (Junot) were at Glogau in Silesia, and the French and allied troops of which

his army consisted, were cantoned on both banks of the Oder. A numerous corps of Prussians was assembling at Breslau under Field-marshal Count Kalreuth. Quitting the festivities at Dresden, Napoleon suddenly appeared at Dantzic on June 7th, where he took a view of the different points of the coast. At this period, negociations seem to have been carrying on between the two emperors; and a suspicion generally prevailed that the Russian would be so much overawed by the terrible storm impending over him, that his firmness would give way; whilst it was very certain that Napoleon, in the confidence of power and former success, would not yield a single point in a contest which had seemed to him important enough to justify such vast preparations. It was, however, an advantage to Alexander, that the destructive war between Russia and Turkey was at length terminated by a peace, which set free the veteran troops upon the banks of the Danube. On the other hand, a treaty was now made public, which had been signed in March, between the emperors of France and Austria, and which included a reciprocal guarantee of each others territories, with the stipulation, if either of them should be attacked or menaced by another power, of sending a succour of 24,000 infantry and 6,000 cavalry, with 60 pieces of cannon, to march at the first requisition. The treaty also guaranteed the integrity of the dominions of the Ottoman Porte in Europe, and recognized the principle of neutral navigation; and the Austrian emperor renewed his engagement to adhere to the pro-

hibitive system against English commerce.

The immediate commencement of hostilities was preceded by the publication at Paris of certain papers, the first of which was a note addressed on April 25th, by the Duke of Bassano, minister of foreign relations, to Count Romanzow, Chancellor of Russia. In this paper, after a statement of the stipulations of the treaty of Tilsit, and the public wrongs imputed to the English cabinet, the writer proceeds to complain of the abandonment by Russia of the principles of that treaty, and of her engagement to make common cause with France. The first cause of complaint is the ukase which opened the ports of Russia to all ships laden with English colonial produce, English property, provided they were under a foreign flag. The next is, the opposition made by Russia to the French annexation of the duchy of Oldenburg, rendered *necessary* by the uniting of the Hanseatic towns to France. Instead of amicably treating for an indemnity for the duchy, the Russian cabinet made an affair of state of it, and issued a manifesto against her ally. Russia is then charged with having disclosed the plan of a rupture ready formed: for, while dictating terms of peace to Turkey, she suddenly recalled five divisions of the army of Moldavia, in consequence of which, the army of the duchy of Warsaw was obliged to repossess the Vistula, and to fall back upon the confederation, through the menacing posture of the Russian armies. The paper then states four points on which the emperor of France was desirous that a ne-

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gociation should be opened with Prince Kurakin, and sketches the terms on which a conciliation might have been effected; and concludes with mentioning the overtures lately made to England, and with saying, that, whatever may be the situation of things when this note shall arrive, peace will still depend upon the determinations of the Russian cabinet.

A note is then given from Prince Kurakin, the Russian minister at Paris, to the minister of foreign affairs. The prince states, that he is ordered to declare, that the preservation of Prussia, and her independence from every political engagement directed against Russia, is indispensable to the interests of his Imperial Majesty. In order to arrive at a real state of peace with France, it is necessary that there should be between her and Russia, a neutral country, not occupied by the troops of either power. The first basis of a negotiation must therefore be, a complete evacuation of the Prussian states, and of all the strong places of Prussia; a diminution of the garrison of Dantzic; the evacuation of Swedish Pomerania, and a satisfactory arrangement between the crowns of Sweden and France. On these conditions, the Emperor of Russia, without deviating from the principle laid down for the commerce of his states, and the admission of neutrals into his ports, will bind himself not to make any change in the prohibitive measures established in Russia against direct trade with England, and will also agree to a system of licences similar to that in France, provided it be not calculated to augment the deterioration already experienced

in the trade of Russia. He will likewise treat on certain modifications in the Russian customs for the advantage of the French trade. Further, he will conclude a treaty of exchange for the duchy of Oldenburg for a suitable equivalent, and will withdraw his protest in support of the rights of his family to that duchy.

Other papers published on this occasion were, the correspondence between the Duke of Bassano and Lord Castlereagh, respecting overtures for peace, which have been already mentioned as a topic of parliamentary discussion; with various letters that passed between the Russian and French ministers. The publication of these pieces by the French government, indicated that it was confident in the goodness of its cause, at least as it would appear in the eyes of its own subjects, to justify the final appeal to arms; accordingly, a bulletin was issued from the grand army on June 22nd, shortly stating that no means were left to effect an understanding between the two courts, and that the emperor had issued orders to march for the purpose of passing the Niemen. Then followed a brief proclamation to his soldiers, conceived in his usual confident and laconic style; and this was his declaration of war. The disposition of the different French armies is thus mentioned in the bulletin: "In the commencement of May, the first corps arrived on the Vistula at Elbing and Marienburg, the second corps at Marienwerder, the third at Thorn, the fourth and sixth at Ploczk, the fifth at Warsaw, the eighth on the right of Warsaw, and the ninth at Pulawy." What

was the united amount of all these divisions has not been exactly stated; but it may be affirmed that never, probably, in modern Europe, forces so numerous, and composed of such various people, were led under a single command to the decision of a political contest. It is agreed that the armies of Russia, extensive as that empire is, were greatly outnumbered by the invaders; whence a defensive plan was necessarily the only one that could be thought of by the Court of Petersburg, to meet the danger.

The French divisions were all in advance at the beginning of June. On the 11th of that month, the Prince of Ekmuhl (Davoust) had his quarters at Königsberg, where he was joined by Napoleon in person; and on the 19th, the French emperor had advanced to Gumbinnen in his march to the Niemen. Three bridges being constructed over that river, part of the army crossed without opposition on the evening of the 23rd, and on the 24th Napoleon was at Kowno on the other side. The rest of the army passed on the following days, and pushed forward in divisions, the Russian light troops retreating before them on all sides. Wilna, the capital of Lithuania, at which the emperor Alexander had for some time resided, was given up without a contest, the Russians, on the approach of the French, burning the bridge over the Vilia, and after setting on fire their large magazines in that city, hastily retreated. On the 28th Napoleon entered Wilna, and the bridge was re-established. The Russians were pursued by the French advanced guard, and some skirmishing took

place, but with no material loss on either side. The Duke of Reggio (Oudinot) had previously crossed the Vilia, near Kowno, on the 25th, and advancing up the country, had obliged the Prince of Wittgenstein, commandant of the first Russian corps, to evacuate all Samogitia, and the country between Kowno and the sea, and retire upon Wilkomirz. On Oudinot's advance, the Russians still retreated, and set fire to their magazines at Wilkomirz.

At this time, a Polish party, under the influence of France, assembled a General Diet at Warsaw, at which, on June 28th, a committee made a long report, dwelling in strong language on the injuries the nation had at different periods sustained from Russia, and the ties by which it was bound to France. It concluded with an act of General Confederation, the sole object of which is declared to be, "to rejoin the fragments of their country, dismembered by the most unjust violence, and to restore it to its former existence and prosperity." They then determine to delegate their powers to a General Council, to be attached to the Grand Marshal, and to reside at Warsaw; and to send a deputation to the King of Saxony, requesting his approbation of this act; and another to the Emperor Napoleon, begging his protection of "the cradle of reviving Poland." Sanguinary and unjust as Buonaparté's proceedings towards Russia must be accounted, we cannot wonder that Poland, cruelly treated as she had been by the powers which usurped all her territory, and blotted her from the list of nations, should readily seize

an occasion of recovering her political existence under the shelter of superior force.

The French divisions continued to advance, and the Russian opposed to them, to pursue the plan of gradual retreat. The latter reached the Duna about the 7th of July, without any considerable loss, and began to concentrate on its banks. During these operations the weather from extreme heat changed to cold and storm, which occasioned the loss of several thousand horses to the French army. Riga was now regarded as exposed to imminent danger, and its governor issued a proclamation to encourage the inhabitants to a vigorous resistance. Some British ships of war had entered its harbour to assist in its defence. The Emperor Alexander, by a proclamation, informed his subjects, that the French had passed the Russian border, and that Napoleon having paid no attention to the most moderate proposals of agreement, was resolved upon the ruin of the country, leaving him no other alternative than to repel force by force. About this time, treaties of peace and friendship were ratified between the King of Great Britain and the Emperor of Russia, and King of Sweden; thus sealing a bond of alliance which entirely changed the political system of the north of Europe.

On the 9th of July, the French advanced posts were on the Duna. Prince Bagrathion, the Russian commander, had been intercepted in his march towards Wilna, and had been obliged to move towards the Dnieper, whilst the French possessed themselves of Novogrodek and Minsk. The great Duchy

of Lithuania was now considered by them as nearly conquered; and Napoleon published an act, organizing a provisional government in it, with a national guard and a gendarmerie. The Emperor of Austria had at this time recalled his ambassador from Petersburg, and had sent his quota of troops as ally to France, under the command of the Prince of Schwartzemberg, who had reached the Russian territory. The main Russian army, which was collected in a strongly entrenched camp at Drissa on the Duna, evacuated it on the 18th, and moved eastward towards Witépsk, where the Emperor Alexander was on the 19th. The King of Naples (Murat) crossed the Duna without opposition on the 20th, and spread his cavalry along the right bank of that river. Various partial actions had occurred during these movements, the circumstances of which are so differently related in the bulletins on each side, that nothing is left certain but the general results. From these it appears that the Russians still persevered in their plan of retreat, but occasionally checked the temerity of the invaders, who began to experience a greater degree of resistance in proportion to their advance. The Prussians, who composed the chief force of Marshal Macdonald, had been advancing through Courland, and a Russian corps at Mittau had been obliged to fight its way to Riga. This city was now thought in such immediate danger of a siege, that its suburbs were burnt down, with a vast destruction of naval and building timber.

The Russian army, when it quitted the entrenched camp at Drissa, consisted

consisted of five corps d'armée, one of which, under Gen. Witgenstein, remained to cover Petersburg, while the other four marched by Polotzk to Witepsk. On July 25th, two French divisions under Gen. Nansouty, encountered the Russians in front of Ostrovno. On that and the two following days there was much sharp fighting in this quarter, the strength of the Russians being stated in the French bulletin at 60,000 infantry and 1,500 cavalry. The loss on both sides was considerable, but the fruits of victory remained with the French, who took many prisoners, and several pieces of cannon. On the evening of the 28th, the Russian army was in full retreat towards Smolensko, and on that day the French entered Witepsk. During these transactions, Prince Bagrathion, on his march, was attacked by the Prince of Eckmuhl (Davoust) near Mohilow, and an engagement ensued which continued the greatest part of the day. It concluded with the retreat of Bagrathion, unmolested, in the direction of Smolensko, where he joined the grand army. The vicinity of Polotzk was also near this time the scene of severe contest. Marshal Oudinot having crossed the Duna with the view, it is supposed, of coming round upon Riga was attacked by Count Witgenstein on the 30th and 31st, who, according to the Russian accounts, gained a complete victory. A French bulletin, however, represents the result of another action, on August 1st, to have reversed this fortune, and left the Russians in the state of entire defeat. The capture by storm of the fortress of Dunaberg, on July

30th, was a proof that, on the whole, success still continued to attend on the French arms.

The French troops now went for a short time into what were called quarters of refreshment, in order to recruit from their losses and fatigues. They were again in motion about the 12th of August, and the main body, under the King of Naples and the Prince of Eckmuhl, marched upon the Dniester in order to obtain possession of Smolensko, at which city the principal force of the Russians was assembled. On August 16th, the heights of Smolensko were commanded by the French troops: the place was reconnoitred by Napoleon in person, and the army was arranged in its position. The particular operations which ensued are not intelligible without a plan; but it appears that the attack and defence were both conducted with vigour and resolution. On the night of the 17th, a dreadful conflagration broke out in the town; and after midnight it was abandoned by the Russians, who retired across the river. It was occupied on the 18th by the invaders, who at length succeeded in extinguishing the fire. The contest for this important place is said to have engaged 100,000 men on each side; and the loss of lives could not fail to be considerable, but that of the Russians is, by the French accounts, stated at triple their own. On the 19th the French crossing the Dniester, made an attack on the Russian rear-guard, the last column of which retreated to the second, which was posted on the heights of Valentina. An action was brought on to force this position, in which a large number

of troops on each side was engaged, and the point was obstinately contested: it terminated in an unmo-
lested retreat of the Russians. The banks of the Duna, near Polotzk, were the scene of some severe encounters on the 16th and 17th, between Witgenstein and Oudinot, in which the success seems to have been nearly balanced. Of a number of inferior actions it is not worth while in this sketch to take notice. An accurate and impartial history of the campaign alone can render them intelligible, and clear them from the obscurity and contradictions resulting from the designed misrepresentations of both parties.

At the beginning of the invasion of Russia, it appeared to have been the design of Napoleon to make a push at once for Petersburg, probably supposing that the imminent danger or capture of this metropolis would terminate the war. But the plan pursued by the Russian commanders to draw the principal force of their antagonists towards the Dnieper, necessarily changed that of the invader, whose object now became the possession of the ancient capital of the empire, Moscow. Its central situation amidst some of the most fertile provinces of Russia, its vast extent, and its ready communication with Poland and the countries of Europe to the west, obviously rendered it a most important station for carrying on a war which was now likely to be protracted at least to another campaign. Smolensko is in the direct road to Moscow, and at a less distance from it than from Wilna; to have occupied that city was therefore a material point

gained towards the further progress of the invading army. The advance of the latter, and the retreat of the Russians before them, destroying or carrying off their magazines, continued as before; and on the 29th, General Caulincourt entered Viasma, a considerable town on the Moscow road. At this time Gen. Kutusoff had taken the chief command of the Russian armies.

Hitherto no opposition of consequence had been given to the French in their approach towards the capital, but the time was now come in which an effort was to be made worthy of the prize contended for. The Russians had taken a strong position at the village of Moskwa, between Ghijat and Mojaisk, where they were descried by the French on September 5th as they had begun to form a redoubt upon a height. This was immediately attacked by Napoleon's order, and carried. The next day passed in reconnoitering; and at day-break on the 7th, the French made an attack on the whole of the Russian position. They state the Russian forces to have amounted to 120 or 130,000 men, and acknowledge an equal number of their own. The battle soon became general, and lasted till night, with a dreadful carnage on both sides. Batteries were taken and retaken, entrenchments carried and recovered, and in the end each party claimed the victory. The French, who named this the battle of Moskwa, triumph without reserve. General Kutusoff says, that the result was, that the enemy, with his superior force, in no part gained an inch of ground, and that he himself remained

remained at night master of the field of battle. The village of Borodino gives the Russian appellation to this terrible conflict. Both sides made the usual demonstrations of success by acts of pious gratitude, which are always understood as addressed more to earth than to heaven; and it is left to the test of consequences to determine which was the chief gainer or loser by the event. One result which certainly was not expected at Petersburg when they were singing *Te Deum*, was, that seven days after, being the 14th, at midnight, the French, after no other contest than some skirmishing with their advanced guard, entered Moscow.

Of the circumstances attending the capture and conflagration of this great city, very different accounts have been given. In the French bulletin which first relates the event, it is said that the governor, Rostopchin, wished to ruin the city when he saw it abandoned by the Russian army—that he armed 3,000 malefactors from the prisons, and 6,000 satellites, and that the French advanced guard, when arrived at the center of the city, were received with a fire of musketry from the Kremlin, or citadel—that the King of Naples ordered a battery to be opened, which soon dispersed this rabble; and that complete anarchy prevailing in the city, some drunken madmen ran through its different quarters, every where setting fire to them, the governor having previously carried off the firemen and engines. A subsequent bulletin gives the following account: "On the 14th, the Russians set fire to the Exchange, the Bazar, and the Hos-

pital. On the 16th a violent wind arose: three or four thousand ruffians set fire to the city in 500 places at once, by order of the governor. Five-sixths of the houses were built of wood; the fire spread with a prodigious rapidity; it was an ocean of flame. Churches, of which there were 1,600, above 1,000 palaces, immense magazines, nearly all have fallen a prey to the flames. The Kremlin has been preserved. Above a hundred of the incendiaries have been apprehended and shot; all of them declared that they acted under the orders of Rostopchin, and the director of the police." The horrid circumstance is added, that 30,000 sick and wounded Russians had been burnt; but it is to be hoped that this is an exaggeration. A subsequent French account from Moscow says, that 300 incendiaries had been arrested and shot: they were provided with fusees six inches long between two pieces of wood, and also with squibs, which they threw upon the roofs of houses. The fires subsided on the 19th and 20th, but three-fourths of the city had been destroyed. It is afterwards said that only one-tenth remained unconsumed.

While the shock occasioned by this terrible catastrophe of one of the most populous cities in Europe was still recent, the friends to the Russian cause were willing to impute the disaster rather to the fire of the assailants, or to the confusion and anarchy prevailing in a captured city, than to a premeditated purpose on the part of the governor or the court; but when the proofs seemed to accumulate of a commanded agency in spreading

ing the flames, arguments were not wanting to show that on such emergencies, sacrifices of this kind, however severe, were not only justifiable, but were the truest patriotism; and that the depriving an inveterate foe of a comfortable abode during the winter in the heart of the country, was a point of such essential consequence, that it could scarcely be gained at too high a price; and the sequel will render probable the justness of this reasoning. It may be added, that nothing could more convincingly prove the fixed determination of the Russian government to enter into no compromise with the invader, than a resolution rather to destroy the venerable capital of the empire, than to bargain for its safety.

General Kutusoff, in his report to the Emperor Alexander of the loss of Moscow, mentions, however, as one reason for his declining to risk another battle to save it, that its issue would not only have proved destructive to his army, but have reduced Moscow to ashes. He further says, that all the valuables, the stores in the arsenals, and almost all other property, imperial or private, were previously carried away, and that scarcely a single inhabitant remained in the town; which, on the other hand, looks more like a design of sacrificing the buildings. The general proceeds to say, that though the abandonment of the capital is very mortifying, yet, that considering the advantages which may accrue from it, the circumstance is no longer to be lamented. His purpose is, to occupy with his forces a line which shall command the roads leading to Tula and Kaluga, and

annoy the whole line of the enemy from Smolensko to Moscow. Baron de Wintzingerode was at this time posted to the north of Moscow, in order to cover Twer, and the roads leading to Petersburg, and other places on that side. A powerful Russian force was assembling to the westward, of which the army from Moldavia formed a part.

The garrison of Riga having been reinforced with a considerable body of troops, its governor, Lieutenant-general Essen, laid a plan for surprising the Prussian corps posted in three divisions between Mittau and Riga. He moved on September 26, and obliged General D'Yorck to abandon his post, and retreat beyond Mittau. A series of actions took place during some succeeding days, which concluded with the return of the Russians to Riga, on October 2, after having, according to the Prussian accounts, sustained considerable losses. The Prussians saved the park of artillery destined to the siege of Riga, re-entered Mittau, and re-possessed themselves of the positions they before occupied.

The impression made at Petersburg by the fall of Moscow was necessarily that of great alarm, of which the court seems to have participated, even whilst it was endeavouring to tranquillize the people. A supplement to the Petersburg Gazette of October 2, under the title, "For Information, by special Command," acquaints the public, that measures are adopting in that city for the removal of certain necessary articles; not, however, from any apprehension of danger to the metropolis—and it proceeds

proceeds to state the circumstances by which its safety is secured—but through timely foresight to be beforehand with the freezing of the rivers. After some attempts at distinguishing between no present, but possible future, danger, it concludes with expressing a determination, “whatever may be the progress of the enemy, rather to drain the last drop of the cup of misery, than by a scandalous peace, to subject Russia to a foreign yoke.” Another precautionary measure, not only important in itself, but as it included a pledge of inviolable fidelity to, and confidence in, a new ally, was that of sending the whole naval force of Russia to winter in the English ports, where it arrived safe at the latter end of the year.

Napoleon continued at Moscow, and flattering accounts appeared in the French papers of his success in restoring order and procuring plenty in the place; at the same time it is certain that he began to find his situation very uneasy, and severely felt the disappointment resulting from the destruction of so large a portion of the city, and the flight of its inhabitants. An extraordinary and atrocious proof of the acuteness of his feelings on this occasion, appeared in his appointing a military commission at Moscow, on September 24, to try a number of poor wretches who had been apprehended in the act of spreading the flames through the city on the days when the French entered it. Though a principal object of the inquiry was, to produce evidence that the conflagration was ordered and directed by the governor, yet these men were capitally condemned for executing com-

mands, to them lawful; and ten of them were put to death, with the ordinary forms of justice. After this mean act of vengeance, Napoleon employed himself as if it were his intention to establish winter-quarters in the ruins of Moscow; if such had not been his plan, it must be regarded as infatuation, or indecision, unworthy of his former character, which induced him to postpone the movement of his vast army to a season immediately bordering upon a northern winter. But whatever might be his secret purpose, his determination was precipitated by the event of an action on the 18th of October. General Kutusoff, having received information of the march of a French corps under General Victor, from Smolensko, to reinforce the grand army, resolved to attack the advanced guard commanded by Murat, and said to consist of 45,000 men, before they could be supported by the main army. The attack succeeded, and left in the hands of the victor a considerable number of prisoners, and 38 pieces of cannon, which the badness of the roads prevented the French from carrying away. The consequence of this victory was, that on the 22nd the corps of General Winzingerode entered Moscow, which was evacuated by the French garrison in such haste, that they left the hospitals in the power of the foe. About the same time other successes attended the Russian cause. Count Witgenstein, after two days' hard fighting with the French, under Marshal Gouvion St. Cyr, in which he drove the enemy from his entrenchments, and pursued him to Polotzk, carried that place by storm on October

ber 20. A number of prisoners were made in those actions, which cost many men on each side.

While the French emperor was triumphing amidst the ruins of a hostile capital, 1,500 miles distant from his own, an attempt was made to subvert his power at home, which, for a time, bore a formidable aspect, and if not speedily suppressed, might have been the commencement of a new revolution. Early in the morning of October 23, three ex-generals, said to have been of the republican party, Mallet, Lahorie, and Guidal, having framed a fictitious senatus consultum, went to the barracks occupied by the first division of the national guards and the dragoons of Paris, and having read a proclamation, informing them of the pretended death of the emperor on the 7th, ordered these troops, in the name of the regent, to follow them. The troops obeyed, and suffered themselves to be led to different posts, where they relieved the guards. The conspirators then presented themselves at the apartments of the minister of the police, and the prefect of the police, whom they arrested, and carried to prison under an escort of 300 men. Another division, in the mean time, was marched to the house of the commandant of Paris, General Hullin, when Mallet informed him that he was no longer commandant; and on Hullin's hesitating to resign his authority, Mallet shot him in the neck with a pistol. Mallet then proceeded with the design of arresting the chief of the *etat-major* of Paris; but this person had several officers in his apartment, who proving too powerful for Mallet, ar-

rested him. They then harangued the troops which had accompanied him, and having succeeded in convincing them that the emperor was not dead, and that this was a conspiracy, they laid down their arms. The troops cantoned in Versailles and the neighbourhood were then sent for, the barriers were shut, and the conspirators, being, besides the three generals, about 20 officers and sub-officers, were arrested and committed to prison; and in a short time Paris was perfectly tranquil. It is asserted by authority, that not a single citizen of Paris or the departments was suspected of being an accomplice in this affair. A military commission was convoked to try the culprits, which declared the three ex-generals and eleven others "guilty of the crime against the safety of the state," and adjudged them to death, acquitting the rest. The execution took place on October 30, in the plain of Grenelle, in the midst of a numerous concourse of spectators; and thus the conspiracy seems to have been completely extinguished, no relics of it having since been brought to light. Its existence, however, is a proof that disaffection prevails to a certain degree in the national guard of Paris, that body which acted so important a part in the Revolution, and which may possibly give origin to some future political change. It is proper to remark, that several additional and varying circumstances relative to the conspiracy have been published from private communications, some of which indicate much deeper contrivance and greater probability of success than could be inferred from the accounts authorised by the govern-

ment; but nothing has since appeared to give room for suspecting that any germ of it is still in being.

The desertion of Moscow by Napoleon (who quitted it the day after the defeat of Murat) was equally a subject of surprise and speculation at Paris, the public papers of which exhausted their ingenuity in finding excuses and motives for this event. One of them thus concludes its reasonings: "To say that the emperor has left Moscow is only to say, that this father of the soldiers marches wherever great operations demand his presence. His presence commands victory; it will still watch over the safety of the victorious army." We shall see in the sequel how well this expectation was verified. The first proof of the great change of situation between the two armies, was the mission of Lauriston to Kutusoff, in order to propose an armistice and treat of peace. The answer given was, that no negotiation of this kind could be entered upon till the French had re-passed the Vistula; and when Lauriston observed in reply, that they must then retire fighting every inch, since the Russian armies were marching on all sides, Kutusoff rejoined, that as the French had not been invited to Moscow, they must get back as they could. Murat also is stated to have gone to the advanced posts, and held a conference with General Milarovitch, probably for the purpose of bringing about an armistice, but from which he derived no satisfaction. At this time the Russians had cleared both banks of the Duna, as far as Witepsk, from the invaders; and the province of Volhynia

was entirely freed from the enemy.

The French grand army first directed its march upon Kaluga; but finding obstacles in that quarter, the route was changed towards Mojaïsk. The Russians pressing upon it, an engagement was brought on at Malo-yaroslavetz, on the 24th, in which, as usual, the French claim a victory; at least, it appears that they checked their pursuers. On November 9, Napoleon arrived with the imperial guard at Smolensko. Of the encounters in this interval, between the retreating and the pursuing armies, the relations by the two parties are so irreconcilable that we shall not attempt to form them into a consistent narrative. It is only certain that much loss was sustained by the French, which they were not in a condition to repair. The Russian winter, which began on the 7th with deep snow, greatly added to their difficulties and sufferings, and their bulletins acknowledge the loss of many men by cold and fatigue in their night bivouackings. Two intercepted letters from the viceroy of Italy, Eugene Napoleon, to the Prince of Neufchatel, afford undeniable evidence of the extreme distress to which the retreating French were reduced. In the first, dated November 8, he speaks of an attack on the head, rear, and center of his columns by the enemy, in which two of his cannon were carried off; and after mentioning his embarrassments, and his critical situation, he says, "I must not conceal from your highness, that after using every effort in my power, I have yet found it impossible to drag my artillery, and that, in this respect, great

great sacrifices must be expected." In the second, on the following day, he mentions the incredible efforts he has made for a small advance, and says, "These three last days have cost us two-thirds of the artillery of this corps of the army. Yesterday about 400 horses died; and to-day perhaps double that number have perished, exclusive of the great number which I have caused to be put on for the military baggage, and for that of individuals. Whole trains of horses have perished in the harness at once.—I must not conceal from your highness, that these three days of suffering have so dispirited the soldier, that I believe him at this moment very little capable of making any effort. Numbers of men are dead of hunger or cold, and others in despair have suffered themselves to be taken by the enemy." In this dreadful condition he was again attacked by General Platoff, at the head of his Cossaks, who, in his report to Marshal Kutusoff, speaks of 3,000 prisoners, and 62 pieces of cannon, as the result of his victory.

The pursuit of the retreating army, on its route to Smolensko, still continued; and on the 10th, a body of 2,000 men, with 60 officers, being a division of General Augereau's corps, was surrounded by the cavalry of Count Orloff Denizoff, and laid down their arms, after a feeble resistance. On the 14th. Count Witgenstein, who had made himself master of Witepsk, was attacked by Marshal Victor, in consequence of an order to drive him beyond the Duna. After an obstinate action, which continued the greatest part of the day, the French retired with considerable

loss, having failed of their purpose. Several other actions took place, which are represented as being uniformly favourable to the Russians, and were preludes to much more important successes. The French, who, after blowing up the fortifications of Smolensko, were marching upon Krasnoi, a town to the south-west of that city, were overtaken by the advanced troops of Marshal Kutusoff's army, which had made prodigious exertions for that purpose, and on November 16, the corps of Marshal Davoust, which had been turned by Prince Galitzin, was brought to action. The battle lasted the whole day, Napoleon himself being in the field, which he quitted without waiting for the issue. It terminated in the complete destruction or dispersion of Davoust's army, which, besides a very heavy loss in killed and wounded, had above 9,000 men, with two generals and many inferior officers, taken prisoners, and lost 70 pieces of cannon. An additional force was then sent to reinforce General Millardovitch, in order to stop the advance of Marshal Ney with the rear divisions of the French. On the 17th, under cover of a thick fog, Ney's troops got unperceived to the foot of the Russian batteries, and endeavoured to pierce through the lines of their opponents. Their efforts, however, were ineffectual, and after great carnage from the Russian cannon and musketry, the remainder, in number 12,000, at midnight, laid down their arms, giving up their cannon, baggage, and military chest. Ney himself escaped, wounded, by flight across the Dnieper.

In the further retreat to the banks

banks of the Berezyna, various encounters took place, the result of which is, as usual, very differently related by the two parties. The most considerable was one which terminated, on the 28th, in the capture, by General Witgenstein, of a French division, said to consist of 8,800 men. During this time the cold was intensely severe, occasioning dreadful sufferings to the fugitives, and almost annihilating their cavalry. When they arrived at the spot where the roads to Minsk and Wilna divide, they took the route to the latter town, first sending off their wounded, with the baggage. In these movements, Napoleon always marched in the midst of his guards, whom, by care and indulgence, he had preserved in tolerable plight. It is mentioned in the French accounts, that to such a degree was the cavalry of the army dismounted, that it was necessary to collect the officers who had still a horse remaining, in order to form four companies of 150 men each. This sacred squadron, as it is termed, in which generals performed the functions of captains, and colonels of subalterns, never lost sight of the emperor. At length, all danger from the pursuers being passed, Napoleon, on December 5, having called together his principal officers, and informed them of the appointment of the king of Naples as his lieutenant-general, set off in a single sledge under the title of the Duke of Vicenze. He passed through Wilna, Warsaw, Dresden, Leipzig, and Mentz, and arrived at Paris on the 18th, at half past eleven at night.

Thus terminated a campaign more destructive of human lives

than perhaps any other in which the ruler of France has been engaged, and certainly more injurious than any other to his political and military reputation. He was able, indeed, at the head of an immense force, to penetrate to another and remoter European capital; but instead of attaining the professed object of his mighty preparations—an object apparently incommensurate with his exertions—all he effected was, the destruction of a fine city; and the devastation of a large tract of country, at the price of leaving the hostile plains thronged with the carcases of his subjects and allies, a still greater number in a state of captivity, and all his artillery and stores in the hands of the enemy. He obtained no addition of glory, either as a statesman or a general, and returned like a fugitive, escaping from danger and disgrace. Every art, however, had been employed to palliate these misfortunes, or conceal their extent from the eyes of the French people; and the recent suppression of a conspiracy had, as usually happens, strengthened the authority of the government. He was, therefore, received at Paris with the accustomed tokens of reverence and attachment; and on the 20th, being seated on his throne, surrounded by all the great officers of state, he was waited upon in full ceremony by the senate, whose president, the Count Lacépède, delivered an address to him as loyal and adulatory as if he had been an hereditary monarch returning in triumph. His reply was remarkable: it particularly alluded to the duty of courage in magistrates, and their obligation to die in defence
of

of their sovereign and his throne. "When (said he) I undertook the regeneration of France, I entreated of Providence a determinate number of years. Destruction is the work of a moment; but to rebuild requires the aid of time. The rallying cry of our fathers was, *The king is dead—long live the king*. These few words comprehend the principal advantages of the monarchy." This was a manifest intimation of the necessity of supporting an hereditary succession in the new dynasty. The council of state being next introduced to pay their homage, the Count Defermon, minister of the finances, pronounced a speech, in which he touched upon the delicate topic of the late conspiracy, planned, he says, "by a maniac, who, for a previous offence, had deserved a punishment which his Majesty had been so generous as to remit." Napoleon's answer contains a sentence which might become our warmest opposers of theoretical principles of government. "It is to that ideal system, to those dark metaphysics which, in pursuing with subtlety the

search after first causes, seek to found upon their basis the legislation of nations, instead of accommodating laws to the knowledge of the human heart, and to the lessons of history, that we must attribute all the misfortunes which our favoured France has experienced." He makes the same allusion to the necessity of courage in a magistrate that was contained in his reply to the senate, and reminds the council of the examples of the presidents Harlay and Molé in the time of the League.

Notwithstanding these public exhibitions of loyalty, it is affirmed in private accounts, that on the arrival of intelligence, which could not be suppressed, of the disastrous condition in which Napoleon had left his army, many symptoms broke out of popular discontent and indignation. Nothing, however, occurred which indicated any serious danger to his authority; and the year closed with the most ostentatious declarations of a resolution to persist in the same political plans, and with confident pre-sages of final success.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Russia.—War with Turkey.—Treaty of Peace.—Treaties with Sweden and England.—French Invasion and Retreat.—Sweden: its Policy.—Diet.—Treaty with England.—Warlike Preparations.—Denmark.—Austria.—Hungarian Diet.—Germany.—Sicily: its new Constitution.—Turkey.

MUCH that relates to the occurrences in the Russian empire during this year has been necessarily anticipated in the last chapter, on account of its intimate connection with the affairs of France; but various circumstances remain to be considered, in which Russia either stood apart from that power, or acted upon her own plans, without the immediate compulsion of events.

The close of the last year left the Russians in a course of success against the Turks, who, under the grand vizier, had crossed the Danube with their best troops. The Petersburg gazette contains a report from General Kutusoff of the surrender of the vizier's army 'as prisoners of war, with all their artillery, on November 26th (December 8th) after having lost 10,000 men in different attacks. This event, it was generally thought, would be so decisive of the Russian superiority, as to lay the Turks at their feet, and oblige them to consent to such conditions of peace as might be imposed by the conquerors; but the Ottoman Porte continued firm in the resolution of making no sacrifice of territory, and appearances were made of vigorous preparation for another cam-

paign. Doubtless, the prospect of an approaching necessity to the Russians of employing their principal force in the defence of their own country, which the French emissaries would not fail of making known in its full extent at Constantinople, greatly encouraged that court in its determination. An armistice, however, for an indefinite period, was in the meantime concluded between the Russian and Turkish commanders, and a congress for negotiations of peace was sitting at Bucharest.

Notice having been given of the cessation of the armistice, arms were resumed on the 10th of February, and the Russian troops were put in motion towards different points of the Danube to prevent the crossing of that river by the Turks. The Russian advanced guard passed to the right bank of the Danube on the 13th with little opposition, and the Turkish posts fell back upon Rudschuck, where the grand vizier lay with 20 or 25,000 men, waiting to be joined by the reinforcements which were on their march from all parts of the Ottoman empire. General Langeron was at this time commander-in-chief of the Russians, and his head-quarters were

were at Giurgevo. These warlike demonstrations, however, had no consequences. The exhaustion of one empire, and the critical state of the other, rendered the necessity of a peace so evident to both parties, that after a considerable time spent in adjusting the terms, a treaty was finally concluded, the ratification of which was announced at Petersburg by a *Te Deum* on August 14th. By its principal article respecting territory, the river Pruth, from its entrance into Moldavia to its junction with the Danube, and the left bank of the Danube to its mouth at Kilia, are declared the European boundaries of the two empires; the Porte relinquishing to Russia all the districts, fortresses, and towns to the left of the Pruth. The Danube may be navigated by the merchant vessels of both powers, but Russian ships of war are not to come higher than the mouth of the Pruth. Full amnesty is granted to the subjects of each power who have taken the opposite part in the war; and in particular, the Porte grants a pardon to the Servians, and consents to demolish the fortresses lately erected in their country, putting garrisons in the ancient fortified places. The Porte also offers its mediation to restore peace between Russia and Persia, on the frontiers of which, hostilities had for some time subsisted, and with some disadvantage to the Russians. Thus was terminated a destructive and protracted war, with an acquisition to Russia of an unhealthy slip of country to her already unwieldy mass of territory, at a cost which she doubtless severely felt in the arduous

contest almost for existence that awaited her.

It was the obvious policy of the Russian court, not only to free itself from an enemy, but to obtain new friends, in order to strengthen it for the coming encounter. The Swedish government, which had given unequivocal proof of a disposition to assert its independence against the requisitions of France, was naturally the first object of amicable negotiation, and a Russian general arrived at Stockholm on March 21st for the purpose of opening a treaty. Some difficulties probably arose, for the sovereigns of the two countries thought proper to have a personal interview in order to bring matters to a final adjustment. The Emperor Alexander, and the crown-prince of Sweden, met at Abo in Finland on August 28th. The emperor, who had been on the spot some days, waited upon the crown-prince immediately after his arrival; and banishing all ceremony, they had a conference which lasted four hours, and from which all their attendants were excluded; but the English minister, Lord Cathcart, was present. The result has not been made public, but it was the general opinion that Alexander promised the restitution of Finland to Sweden within six months, on the condition of a co-operation of the Swedish troops against the French. We shall see, however, that no such co-operation actually took place during the campaign of this year.

No difficulty seems to have occurred in settling a treaty between Russia and England, the interests of the two nations so well coinciding

ciding in opposition to the ambitious projects of the French ruler. A treaty of peace and amity was ratified on August 1st, by which the former relations of friendship and commerce between the two countries were re-established, and an alliance defensive against all powers who, in resentment of this treaty, should attack either of the contracting parties, was agreed upon. The assistance given by the English fleet in the defence of Riga, and the confidence with which Russia intrusted its whole naval force to winter in the English ports, have already been mentioned as consequences of this renewed friendship.

Whatever fluctuation there might have been in the Russian councils at the remote prospect of a contest with the most formidable power that Europe had ever beheld, there was no symptom of indecision as the storm rolled nearer : and the conditions which the court of Petersburg proposed as the price of a continuation of its amity indicated a firm resolution to maintain the independence becoming a great and powerful empire. Alexander had taken post at Wilna in order to be at hand for assisting in the deliberations respecting peace and war. When the attack upon his troops at Kowno, and the address of Napoleon to his army, had decided the point of hostility, he issued, on June 25th, general orders to his armies, declaring the war to be commenced, and expressing confidence in the bravery of his troops, and the justice of his cause. The plan of the campaign was wisely framed on the defensive system, avoiding as long as possible a general action with a

foe so much superior in numbers and appointment, and whose impetuosity and military skill would doubtless render his first onset almost irresistible. Alexander himself, when compelled to leave Wilna, prudently returned to Petersburg, aware that the presence of the sovereign, when not professionally qualified for military command (which he can very rarely be), is only an impediment to the operations of his generals. The disasters occasioned by the first rush of this dreadful torrent were met with a resolution and magnanimity on the part of the Russian government; and even after the loss and destruction of the ancient capital, not the most distant idea seems to have been admitted of yielding to the will of the invader. Nor, in a war like this, would it be just to attribute to a want of feeling for the severe sufferings of its subjects, this pertinacity of resistance; it was not a war for the attainment of an object of ambition, in which the happiness of the people had little or no concern, but for that national independence, without which there can be neither public honour nor private prosperity. Further, it became evident, after the battle of Borodino, that the plan adopted was almost certain of final success. The assailants were continually diminishing in number and strength; while the reinforcements of the defenders were concentrating on all sides, and their confidence rose in proportion as that of their enemies subsided. The sure aid of their terrible winter was also approaching; and even had the houses of Moscow been left standing, no prudent general would have thought of wintering
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in the heart of a hostile country, cut off by a long tract of deserts (for such they had been rendered) from all military communication with the source of his supplies.

The retreat of the French was at length fully decided, and Russia was left at liberty to adopt a system of action not imposed by the present necessity of making defence against superior power. At this period, in October the Emperor Alexander issued a proclamation which gave a spirited, but unexaggerated, view of the relative situation of the two antagonists. "Russians! (said he) at length the enemy of our country, the foe of its independence and freedom, has experienced a portion of that terrible vengeance which his ambitious and unprincipled aggression had aroused. From the period of his march from Wilna, his army, great in numbers, assured in valour and discipline, and elated at the remembrance of victories gained in other regions, threatened no less than the subjugation of the Russias. The system which we had thought fit to adopt strengthened that confidence. The sanguinary battles fought on his route, and which gave him temporary possession of Smolensk, flattered him with all the illusions of victory. He reached Moscow, and he believed himself invincible and invulnerable. He now exulted in the idea of reaping the fruit of his toils, of obtaining for his soldiers comfortable winter-quarters; and of sending out from thence, next spring, fresh forces to ravage and burn our cities, make captives of our countrymen, overthrow our laws and holy religion, and subject every thing to his lawless will.

Vain presumptuous hope! insolent degrading menace! A population of forty millions, attached to their sovereign and country, and devoted to their religion and laws, the least brave man of whom is superior to his confederates and victims, cannot be conquered by any heterogeneous force which he could muster." After recounting what has been done, the emperor goes on to observe, "Much however remains to be done, and that is in your power. Let the line of his retreat be rendered memorable by your honest indignation: destroy every thing which can be of service to him, and our commanders have orders to remunerate you. Render your bridges, your roads, impassable. In fine, adopt and execute the suggestions of a brave, wise, and patriotic heart, and show yourselves deserving of the thanks of your country and your sovereign." With what effect these injunctions were put in practice may be inferred from the narrative already given of the disastrous return of the surviving French from the country they had so cruelly desolated. It only remains to be observed, that the Russians, not contented with the complete expulsion of their invaders, followed up their success without taking the repose usually allotted to the winter, and exerted themselves for the recovery of the districts annexed to their empire, and the renewal of their former influence in that part of Europe. But the particulars of these vigorous efforts will form materials for the public history of another year.

SWEDEN continued during this year to fix the attention of politicians, by a system of conduct that

that gave scope to a variety of conjectures, but which was probably a necessary consequence of her peculiar situation. The statement of her affairs made by the crown-prince to the king, on the resumption of the royal authority by the latter on January 7th, was noticed in our last volume. It evidently pointed at a system of independent neutrality as that which ought to be adopted by the kingdom, and which it possessed the means of maintaining. In the same month, some representations were made by the Swedish minister at Paris on behalf of merchants whose ships had been taken by French privateers during the war; to which the answer given was, that the war had liquidated all these claims. Shortly after, the French chargé d'affaires at Stockholm made a requisition in behalf of certain French, Dutch, and Genoese creditors of the state, demanding that the commissioners for the national debt should pay them, if not their capitals, at least the interest which had accrued. To this, the Swedish minister for foreign affairs was directed to return the same answer that was given in the former case, "That the war between the two powers had liquidated all debts whatever." These replies and retorts indicated little wish in the two courts to live in harmony with each other.

The occupation of Swedish Pomerania by the French has been mentioned as one of the earliest military events of the year. It seems at first to have produced the intended effect of influencing the Swedish government; for in an official publication by that government on the subject of the en-

trance of the French into Stralsund, it is said that this proceeding was not to be regarded as a hostile act. An application, also, made by the merchants to the Crown Prince for permission to import goods from Great Britain, met with a decided negative; and it was followed by strict orders to the governor of Gottenburgh not to admit British merchandize into the ports of Sweden without immediately sequestrating the same. As the prospect of hostilities between France and Russia, however, became more certain, the conduct of Sweden assumed a more determinate aspect; and when the Russian general Von Suchtelen was on his mission at Stockholm, he was joined in the beginning of April by Mr. Thornton, the English minister, though as yet under no public character. On April 20th the diet of the kingdom assembled at Orebro. It was opened by a speech from the king, in which, after alluding to the happy effect of various acts passed at the former diet, he says, "I have called you together at a moment when great and important occurrences out of our native country seem to threaten Europe with new misfortunes. Guarded by her situation from the forced obligation of paying obedience to foreign sway, which possibly might not accord with her own interests, Sweden has every thing to hope from unity, valour, and conduct; every thing to lose, if she gives herself up to intestine divisions, and unwise fear." His Majesty proceeds to set forth the advantage of union, and hints at the reasons which induced him to convoke the diet at Orebro rather than at Stockholm: and

and he concludes his "fixed determination of going hand in hand with his son (the crown-prince) in defiance of threats from without, and possibly, of opinions at home, to maintain the liberty and independence of this ancient realm."

In the reply of the crown-prince to the states, there is a passage, addressed particularly to the burghers which still more explicitly declares the policy intended to be adopted. "You will show what a nation is capable of effecting when determined to free its commercial industry from all foreign yokes." At this period, orders were sent to the coast to afford British ships in distress every assistance they might require; and Mr. Thornton was received at Orebro as the accredited minister of Great Britain at the Swedish court.

The following decree relative to commerce was afterwards issued by the Swedish government:

Art. 1. From the 15th of August all the ports of Sweden shall be opened to vessels of every flag and nation; but every foreign vessel is only allowed to import such goods as are either produced or manufactured in that very country or its colonies.

Art. 2. All goods imported by foreign vessels to pay 40 per cent more duty than such as arrive in Swedish ones; every vessel acting against the above order, and importing such goods as are not derived from her home country, shall be confiscated, together with its cargo.

Art. 3. Swedish vessels are allowed to import all goods from every place of the world. The exports are equal for Swedish as for foreign vessels.

The diet closed on the 18th of

August, with a speech from the king, in which he congratulates the assembly on the spirit of unanimity which had prevailed in their deliberations. "You have shown (he says) that a king with upright intentions, and an open candour, need not fear, even under foreign circumstances of great import, to rely on the deputies of his people; and that *no foreign power* can loosen or break those bonds of union, which bind together the heir to Sweden's throne, and the free-born heirs to Sweden's soil." He informs them that, confident in the maxim, that strong defensive preparations are the best means to ensure the peaceable situation of a state, he had found it necessary to pay a particular attention to the military force of the kingdom; and he further announces, that on the 18th of last month he had concluded a peace with the king of Great Britain, which had been ratified two days ago. The crown-prince also delivered his farewell address on the same day, in which the leading topic was an eulogy on the coolness maintained in the deliberation of the diet amidst the din of arms resounding from the Dwina to the Tagus, and the animosity of some of their neighbours. The only warlike hint appears in the following passage, addressed to the order of knighthood and nobility: "Should circumstances require it, should there be no hope for Sweden pursuing her way in peace, then will your king have recourse to your manly courage, and our watch-word shall be God, liberty, and our native country." The treaty with England above alluded to consists of only four articles, the import of which is, the

the restoration of the relations of peace and commerce between the two nations on the footing whereon they stood on the 1st of January 1791, and an engagement on the part of the king of Great Britain to concert measures with the Swedish government for the security and independence of Sweden, in case she should undergo any attack in resentment of the treaty now entered into.

The interview between the crown prince and the emperor of Russia at Abo has already been noticed. This circumstance, with the assembling of a fleet at Gottenburgh apparently for the embarkation of a body of troops, excited great expectations in the north of some immediate co-operation on the part of Sweden with the armies of Russia; although the cautious language of the king and prince to the states seemed clearly to limit the intentions of the Swedish government to merely defensive measures. It is true, the opportunity might have been taken, of an attempt to recover Pomerania, while the French armies were otherwise employed; but the final success of the campaign was yet dubious; and Sweden, by keeping up a respectable neutrality, might hope to obtain on easy terms by negociation, what could only be gained at great cost and hazard by war. The marching of troops towards the sea-ports was, however, continued till the month of October, when the lateness of the season began to render faint the expectation of the sailing of an expedition during the current year. In fact, whatever might have been the motive for keeping up appearances of this kind, the Swedish government

steadily adhered to a plan which can scarcely be doubted to have been dictated by the soundest policy relative to the circumstances of the country. Exhausted as it was by a former war, and by no means free from party dissension at home (of which sufficient intimations are given in the king's speech to the diet), it would have been the height of imprudence to have plunged into a dangerous quarrel; and the firm assertion of the national independence was glory enough for one of the secondary states of Europe, at a time when so many of the first class were reduced to a condition which rendered them the mere satellites of overgrown power. With respect to Sweden we have only further to mention, that its government concluded a treaty of peace with the regency of Spain acting in the name of Ferdinand VII., thus binding itself still more firmly to the cause opposed to that of France.

DENMARK, overawed, robbed, impoverished, could scarcely do more in this revolutionary state of the north than give some tokens of her existence as an independent country. Her continental possessions entirely at the mercy of France, it could not be expected that, even if willing, she should desert the anti-commercial system imposed by its ruler, how grievous soever to her own mercantile interest; and it was enough not to be compelled to follow in the train of dependents which Napoleon led to the subjugation of her former great ally. She still carried on a petty maritime war with England, of which some of the events appear in our account of naval transactions; and her flotillas possessed enterprize
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and animosity enough to become troublesome, if not formidable, adversaries. In the meantime, in all personal occurrences between the Danes and English, there appears to have subsisted a feeling of ancient kindred and alliance which has alleviated the rancour of political resentment; and the arrogant dictatorial conduct of the French minister, Alquier, at the court of Copenhagen, has probably inspired the nation at large with an earnest wish to be delivered from servitude. Its internal sufferings from scarcity of provisions have been very distressing; and few countries in Europe seem at present more entitled to commiseration. Domestic dissensions aggravate the calamities under which it labours. In the latter part of the year we are told that the reigning prince had dismissed all his ministers, and had assumed the sole conduct of affairs, with the assistance only of his aides-de-camp. The French troops in Holstein and Sleswick having been withdrawn to accompany their countrymen to Russia, the Danish militia had been embodied to a number beyond all precedent, apparently from jealousy of the warlike preparations of Sweden; and their augmentation had proved an additional cause of discontent. The government being absolute, there exists little community of interest between prince and people; and if the former, as is asserted, adheres firmly to the French alliance, it may be because he finds a powerful protector necessary for the support of his authority at home.

THE COURT OF VIENNA was principally occupied, about the beginning of the year, in the great

work of restoring the finances. A circular published at Vienna on December the 28th, 1811, has the following preamble: "By a decree of the 18th of this month, his Imperial Majesty having judged it indispensably necessary for the relief of the finances, and providing for the necessities of the State, to raise the contribution, called the Contribution of the Classes, with the addition of 50 per cent, and the personal contribution, during the course of the military year 1812, has ordered that these taxes shall be raised within the said year." That the burdens of a state should be continued, and even increased, for a period subsequent to the restoration of peace, is a necessary consequence of the long and dreadful wars in which Europe has been engaged, and must be expected by all the powers who have had the misfortune to share in them. Although rigorous measures of taxation could be carried with little opposition in the hereditary dominions of Austria, the same facility did not exist in the kingdom of Hungary. The winter session of the Hungarian diet was a scene of longer and more violent discussions than had been witnessed for many years. The magnates and representatives of the people concurred in opposing financial measures introduced as absolutely necessary for the salvation of the state. They urged that the constitution of the country did not permit them to acquiesce in the imposition of such heavy burdens: that the brave and loyal Hungarians were always ready to make sacrifices in support of the rights of their sovereigns; but that if they were to adopt the financial plan proposed by the ministers,

an unequal proportion of the public burdens would be laid upon them, for the relief of the hereditary states. As much inconvenience arose from the prolongation of these disputes, the courts of justice being in the mean time shut, and the expenses of the diet continually augmenting, it was at length agreed that Hungary should pay within two years, 24 millions of florins in bills of exchange; deliver into the imperial magazines four millions of measures of grain, of different sorts; and submit to an extraordinary impost of two florins for each quintal of salt during three years.

After the Emperor of Austria had consented to form a family union with the French Emperor, nothing less could be expected than that their political systems would partake of the same concert. The treaty, therefore, between the two courts, of which mention has been already made, could excite no surprise; and as the Austrian limited the succour given to Napoleon, in his war with Russia, to the contingent specified in the terms of the agreement, no particular hostility against that power on his part could be inferred. It is not to be doubted that Austria, as the third military power on the continent, must always view with an eye of jealousy the predominance of either of the other two; but her past humiliation by France, and the vast resources, and overbearing ambition of its Ruler, must naturally incline her to contribute to the aggrandisement of an empire already so dangerous to the independence of Europe. The Austrian army under Prince Schwartzemberg ap-

pears, indeed, to have taken its part in good earnest; and if the accounts communicated by its commander are to be credited, it fully maintained the reputation of its valour and discipline; but how far the Emperor Francis will think himself bound to persist in his alliance, should the face and fortune of Europe put on a new aspect, time and events alone can determine.

With respect to the rest of Germany, its dependent kings and insignificant princes, so few traces remain of its separate existence, that nothing has occurred historically to distinguish the Germanic body from the general mass of subjects and satellites which swell the train, and are linked to the destinies, of the French Emperor. If any thing of a national spirit still exists in that part of Europe, it must be impatient to liberate itself from such a state of degradation; but without some rallying point, at which the scattered force of a martial people may be concentrated, it will be vain to expect any effectual resistance to a power which has the art of making division the instrument of mutual subjugation. Such a point was once afforded by Prussia; but the sovereign of that country must exert much more vigour than has hitherto appeared to belong to his character, before he can shake off the fetters which at present hold him as a state prisoner in his own dominions.

Of the remainder of Europe, SICILY has presented the principal object of curiosity, at least, if not of interest. It was impossible that such a divided rule, in one island, as that of a foreign court on one hand, and a foreign army on the

the other, over a native population averse to both, could subsist in tranquillity; and after the return of Lord William Bentinck, a conspiracy of spies and assassins in the interest of France was discovered, in the month of December 1811, and its ringleaders, being arrested, were tried by a military commission at Messina, and some of them capitally condemned. The rooted dislike of the Queen to the English ascendancy in Sicily, and her attachment to the French interest, were sufficiently manifest in the transactions of the last year: the notorious incapacity of the King also rendered him unfit to hold the reins: nothing therefore remained, in order to settle a regular government, correspondent with the views of the British cabinet, but to place the authority in the hands of the nation at large, supported by the English army. As a step to this change, the fugitive Barons were recalled in January, and were welcomed to Palermo by a great escort of nobility, to the high displeasure of the Queen. Lord W. Bentinck was declared Captain-General of all the troops in the island, and gained general applause by his firm and prudent conduct. The King soon afterwards, on the pretext of indisposition, made a formal resignation of his royal authority to his son. When, upon the motion in the English Parliament for a renewal of the subsidy of 400,000*l.* to his Sicilian Majesty, this fact was taken notice of, Lord Castlereagh assured the house that no fraud or violence had been used to induce the King to take this step, which he chose rather to call a temporary substitution of another authority, than an abdication.

It now became the great object to frame a new constitution for the island, and the intimate connection which had for some years subsisted between the Sicilians and the English caused the British constitution to be adopted as the model. On July the 20th, the Parliament of the Island assembled in the usual manner at Palermo, when they entered upon the important business, pursuant to the instructions of his Royal Highness, the Vicar-General, or delegate of sovereign authority. They began by fixing the limits of the legislative, executive, and judiciary powers; the first of which they lodged in the Parliament, the second in the King, with personal inviolability, but with responsible ministers. The judges were declared independent, but impeachable by the Commons, if guilty of criminal conduct. The Parliament instead of being, as before, divided into three branches, was to consist only of two houses; one of Commons, composed of the representatives of the cities and baronies; and one of Lords, formed by the union of the ecclesiastical and baronial branches. The privileges of these houses, and the mode of enacting laws, were copied from the English constitution. It was a proof both of the wisdom, and the patriotism of the barons, that they renounced the feudal privileges which had descended to them through eight centuries, and were confirmed by the laws of the kingdom; and contented themselves with the common rights of citizens. Thus, apparently without opposition, one of the worst governed countries in Europe has acquired the means of becoming one of the best governed, provided
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it shall possess virtue and courage to maintain the advantages it has gained, and the issue of the great subsisting contest shall leave them free from the control of foreign sway.

It was not to be expected that a change in the constitution from absolute to limited monarchy should be acquiesced in by the Court without a struggle; and various intimations have been given of attempts by the Queen's party to excite disturbances, and to destroy that English influence through which the change has been effected. It is probable that a greater resistance would have been made, had not Lord W. Bentinck possessed, in the disposal of the subsidy, a powerful means of restraining violent measures. The impossibility of paying the Sicilian army without its aid obliged the Queen very reluctantly to leave it entirely under his command, and thus deprived her of that support to arbitrary power which seldom fails to be given by a military force entirely organized and appointed by the Crown. After all, her disaffection to the new order of things must have remained in activity, since we are told, in letters from Sicily, dated October the 30th, that the Queen was ordered to reside at Saint Margaritha, a retired situation on the southern side of the island, and was prohibited from coming to Palermo; and that there was an intention of sending her to Vienna in the summer.

The affairs of **TURKEY**, apart

from its war with Russia, have afforded little worthy of record during the present year. Constantinople has been afflicted with one of those periodical returns of pestilence, to which it must be ever liable, while the system of fatalism prevents the use of any precautionary measures against that scourge; and it is said that an unusually large proportion of its population has been swept off by the disease. Smyrna, likewise, and other cities in the empire, have suffered under the same calamity. It does not appear that any thing effectual has been done towards the suppression of that formidable class of sectaries, the Wahabees. In the spring, intelligence was received of the defeat of Jussum Pasha, in an engagement with them near Medina. He lost some thousand men, and retired in disorder to the banks of the Red Sea, where he was waiting for reinforcements.

The peace with Russia, however necessary, having been attended with some cession of the Turkish territory, was regarded as dishonourable at the Porte, and the government gave some of the usual tokens of its displeasure. Prince Demetri Morousi, formerly Hospodar of Moldavia, one of the Ottoman Plenipotentiaries, who signed the treaty, was beheaded at Schumla, the Grand Vizier's quarters, by orders from the Grand Seignior, as having been a partizan of Russia; and the richest individual in Rudshuck fell a sacrifice to a similar imputation.

CHAPTER XIX.

United States of America—Resolutions in favour of War—Mr. Gallatin's Budget—Correspondence between Mess. Foster and Monroe—Animosity increased by Henry's Mission—Act for an Embargo—Other War Measures—Opposition—War declared—State of Votes—Action with the Belvidere Frigate—Disturbance near Montreal—Congress adjourned—Riot and Massacre at Baltimore—General Hull's Incursion into Canada, and Capture—Refusal of the President to confirm an Armistice—Capture of the Guerriere—Letters of Marque issued by England—American Antigallican Parties—Defeat and Capture of General Wadsworth—Congress re-assembled—President's Message—Engagements between the Frolic and Wasp, and the Macedonian and United States—General Dearborn's Advance to Champlain—Blockade of the Chesapeake and Delaware.

FROM the temper manifested by the President and Congress of the UNITED STATES towards the close of last year, it was evident that nothing could prevent a war between that country and Great Britain, but either a change in the system pursued by the latter, or a dread in the former to come to the point of actual hostilities, under the prospect of much suffering from abroad, and much discontent at home. That, however, the American Government might calculate upon a support of their measures from public opinion, sufficient to ensure the compliance necessary for their execution, might be inferred from the manner in which the resolutions of the committee of foreign relations were received by the House of Representatives, the most popular part of the constitution. On the division, which took place in this

discussion, the several resolutions were carried by majorities, of which the lowest was 109 to 22, and the highest 110 to 11. A motion in the same house for the indefinite postponement of a bill for raising 25,000 additional troops was rejected by a majority of 98 to 29—a division which might be regarded as almost the immediate forerunner of hostile proceedings. It appeared at this time, that the advocates for war, besides the lure of rich prizes to be made by the American privateers, threw out confident expectations of the conquest of Canada.

Mr. Gallatin's budget was laid before Congress on January the 12th. It recommended a loan of 10 millions of dollars, to meet the exigencies of the present year, and calculated that a like loan would be necessary for several years to come. It also gave the comfortable

ble prospect of continually increasing taxes to pay the interest of these loans. A correspondence between Mr. Foster, the English minister, and Mr. Monroe, the American secretary of state, was soon after communicated to Congress, with the President's remark upon it, which was in these words: "The continued evidence afforded in this correspondence of the hostile policy of the British government against our national rights, strengthens the considerations recommending and urging the preparation of adequate means for maintaining them." It would be superfluous to give a sketch of the arguments used on each side in this discussion—arguments referring to the beaten topic of the **French decrees** and English orders of council, and which have proved totally inefficacious to produce conviction on the different parties. In reality, the law of nations, though perpetually referred to, is so vague in its principles, and so varying in its application, that it can never be relied on actually to decide points on which the interests of contending states strongly draw in opposite directions, and no umpire exists to whom appeal can be made. In the present unhappy quarrel, both parties boasted of their moderation and forbearance: both alleged the reason and justice of their cause; yet both were in fact determined by motives of state-policy operating exclusively upon themselves.

When the particulars of raising the necessary supplies for the war, and equipping an adequate military force, came to be discussed in Congress, the great majorities in favour of the measures proposed

by government no longer appeared, and several questions were barely carried. It might now have been hoped that the near prospect of the inevitable burdens consequent upon open hostilities, would have occasioned a pause, during which the friends of peace on both sides might possibly discover some expedient to bring matters to an agreement; but just at this juncture an incident occurred which added new exasperation to the existing ill will. The President, on March 9th, sent a message to both houses, laying before them copies of documents to prove, that at a recent period, the British government had sent a secret agent into the United States, for the purpose of fomenting disaffection against the constituted authorities, and eventually of effecting a separation in the union. The circumstance to which this complaint referred, was the mission of a Captain Henry into Massachusetts, by Sir James Craig, governor of Canada, respecting which, an inquiry in the English parliament has already been reported. It there appeared that some improper steps had in fact been taken by Sir J. Craig, but without the knowledge of the government at home. The members of parliament, however, who most condemned this conduct, agreed that the President would have acted more correctly in making a remonstrance to the British administration, and receiving its explanations, before he brought the charge into Congress; but he probably could not resist the temptation of making use of such an opportunity to rekindle the animosity of his fellow-citizens against this country, which was perhaps
beginning

beginning to subside. It was, indeed, too efficacious for this purpose; for it is said, that when the documents were read, a burst of indignation proceeded from all parts of the house. A thousand copies were ordered to be printed for dispersion throughout the Union.

In the beginning of April, at a secret sitting of Congress, an act was passed for laying an embargo on all the ships and vessels of the United States, for the term of 90 days from the date thereof; the purpose of which was doubtless to expedite the manning of the American ships of war, and to prevent any more pledges from remaining in the power of an enemy on the commencement of hostilities. This act was followed by another, prohibiting the exportation of specie, and of any goods or merchandize, foreign or domestic, either by land or water, during the continuance of the embargo. As a further progress towards hostilities, a bill was introduced into the House of Representatives about the end of April, "for the protection, recovery, and indemnification of American seamen," the first clause of which declares that every person who, under pretence of a commission from a foreign power, shall impress upon the high seas a native seaman of the United States, shall be adjudged a pirate and a felon, and upon conviction, shall suffer death. Another article gives to every such seaman impressed under the British flag, the right of attaching in the hands of any British subject, or in the hands of *any debtor of any British subject*, a sum equal to 30 dollars per month for the whole time of his detention.

This violent bill passed to a third reading in the House of Representatives, such were the feelings which at that time governed the American republic! An attempt was made by the moderate party to adjourn the two houses, in order to give time for a cooler discussion of these topics, but it failed of effect. The mercantile interest in the eastern states also petitioned for some relaxation of the embargo; and a motion was made for the repeal of the non-importation act, upon the ground of the necessity of bringing home property belonging to the citizens of the United States, previously to engaging in a war, but the government would not yield in either of these points. At the same time, while hostilities were impending with one of the belligerent powers, the relations with the other were by no means satisfactory; and on May 26th, a correspondence was laid before Congress by the President, between Mr. Barlow, the American minister at Paris, and the secretary of state, in which the former states the inattention of the French government to his complaints and claims for redress, and announces that he is obliged, after long waiting, to send away his dispatches without the treaty which he expected to have concluded.

The temper of the House of Representatives with respect to a war with England, was rendered manifest by the result of a motion by Mr. Randolph, on May 29th. That gentleman, after a long speech concerning the present relations of the United States with Great Britain and France, submitted to the house the following re-

solution: "That under the present circumstances it is inexpedient to resort to a war with Great Britain." The question being then put, that the house do proceed to the consideration of the said resolution, it was negatived by 62 votes against 37. All hopes of pacific measures now therefore rested upon the determination of the senate. On June 4th, the President laid before Congress copies of a correspondence which had lately taken place between Mr. Foster and Mr. Monroe. It chiefly consisted of a long argumentative letter from the former relative to the old subject of the orders in council, and the French decrees, of which it is sufficient to remark, that not the least expectation is held forth of any further relaxation on the part of Great Britain. On the contrary, Mr. F. says expressly, "America, as the case now stands, has not a pretence for claiming from Great Britain a repeal of her orders in council." Previously, however, to this communication, the President had sent a long message to both houses, dated June 1st, in which he set forth all the injuries, and hostile measures (as he considered them) practised by the government of Great Britain, and still persisted in, towards the United States, and recommended the subject to their early deliberations. (See State Papers.) In consequence, discussions, with closed doors, took place in the two houses, the final result of which was an act passed on June 18th, declaring *the actual existence of war* between the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the United States of America.

A list has been published of the votes in the House of Representatives on this momentous occasion, by which it appears that the majority for declaring war was 79 against 49. The supporters of war were chiefly the southern and western states, to Pennsylvania inclusive: the votes for peace were chiefly in the eastern and northern states, New York taking the lead. As commercial grievances constituted a great part of the complaints against Great Britain, adduced to justify the resort to arms, it is highly probable, that if the orders in council had been repealed early enough for intelligence of the event to have reached America before the final decision, the advocates for peace would have acquired so much additional strength as, at least, to have deferred the declaration of hostilities till time had been given for negotiating on the other points in dispute. Indeed, little doubt seemed to be entertained on this side the Atlantic, that the news of the repeal, protracted as it was, would arrive time enough to prevent actual war. But the first recoil from a resolution full of hazard and mischief having passed, men were brought to regard it as a thing decided, and to consider what public or private advantage could be made of the new state of affairs. Subsequent events, too, render it highly probable that the American government had anticipated credit from the commencement of the war, especially from the conquest of Canada, which seems to have been regarded as an easy task.

The first act of hostility between

tween the two powers occurred almost immediately after the declaration of war. Commodore Rodgers, of the President frigate, leaving New York with a squadron of ships of war, having received intelligence that a British convoy had sailed about a month before from Jamaica, made course to the southward; and on June 23rd fell in with the Belvidere English frigate, Capt. Byron, to which he gave chase. The President alone got near enough for action, and a running fight ensued for three hours, after which the Belvidere kept on her way for Halifax unmolested, having undergone some damage, and had some men killed and wounded. The President also incurred some loss of men, chiefly from the bursting of one of her own guns. Capt. Byron, concluding from this attack that war was declared, captured three American merchant vessels before he arrived in port, which were released by Admiral Sawyer, commander on the Halifax station.

An occurrence near Montreal, about this time, doubtless animated the hopes of the Americans with respect to the meditated expedition against Canada. By a late militia law, a draft of 2,000 men was to be made from the militia of the province, for three months, in order to be trained and disciplined. Some of those who were to be drafted from the parish of St. Claire, having refused to march to La Prairie to join the division stationed there, an officer was sent to apprehend the refractory persons as deserters. Four of these were taken and carried off, but were followed by a mob who res-

cued one, and threatened to come the next day to La Prairie, and liberate all the young men of their parish who were kept there. Accordingly, a large body assembled at La Chine to execute this purpose, when they were met by a police magistrate, with a detachment of regular troops. A parley ensued, in which the insurgents pleaded that they did not consider the militia act as fully passed, and that it had not been properly promulgated among them. They declared their readiness to concur in the defence of their country, but persisted in their determination relative to the object they had in view. The riot act was then read, and on their refusal to disperse, shots were fired by the troops, which were returned by the insurgents; the latter were however soon dispersed with a trifling loss. On the next day a larger force was marched to the spot, who made a considerable number of prisoners, and brought them to Montreal. The governor acted with prudent lenity on the occasion, and discharged them upon a promise to deliver up the instigators of the insurrection, and the deserters. It is said that two attorneys, members of the house of assembly, were the chief promoters of this act of resistance, which at such a crisis was certainly of dangerous import.

On July 6th, an act passed the Congress to prohibit American vessels from proceeding to, or trading with, the enemies of the United States, and also to forbid the transport of articles of munition of war, or provision, to the British settlements in North America,

America, and for other restrictive purposes. Authority was given to the President to grant passports for the transportation of ships or property belonging to British subjects from the limits of the United States, but the citizens of these states were prohibited from taking licences for trading from the British government. From this day, the Congress adjourned till the 2nd of November.

Parties are the inseparable concomitants of free governments, and the republic of the United States has always had its full share of the dissensions springing from this source. A war so differently affecting the different parts of the union, could not but be received with great diversity of feeling. At Boston, on the day of its declaration, all the ships in the port displayed flags half mast high, the usual token of mourning; and a town meeting was held in that city, in which a number of resolutions were passed, stigmatizing the war as unnecessary and ruinous, and leading to a connexion with France destructive to American liberty and independence.

Very different were the popular sentiments in the southern states, where swarms of privateers were preparing to reap the expected harvest of prizes among the West India islands. Of the towns in this interest, Baltimore stood foremost, in violence and outrage. A newspaper published there, entitled "The Federal Republican," had rendered itself obnoxious by its opposition to the measures of the war-party, and menaces had repeatedly been thrown out against the conductors. On the night of

July 27th, a mob assembled before the house of the editor, for the purpose of destroying it. In expectation of this attack, he had collected a number of friends with fire arms to defend it from the inside, among whom were Generals Lee and Ligan. A furious affray arose, in which the mob were several times repulsed with loss. At length a party of military were brought to the spot by the mayor and General Stricker, to whom those of the defenders who were left in the house, 26 in number, surrendered themselves upon assurance of their safety, and were conducted to prison. On the next day, at the shameful instigation of a public journal, the mob re-assembled before the jail, with the intention of taking their revenge; and having broken open the doors, after some of the prisoners had rushed through and made their escape, they fell upon the rest with clubs, and beat them till scarcely any signs of life remained. General Ligan, a man of 70, and formerly a friend of Washington, was killed on the spot. General Lee, a distinguished partisan in the revolutionary war, had his skull fractured; and many others were severely injured. The militia refused to turn out while this massacre was perpetrating, and the mayor is said to have absented himself. It must be added, that this atrocity was regarded with horror and indignation in all the other parts of the United States, not only so but in England.

The campaign against Canada commenced early in July. On the 11th of that month, General Hull

Hull with a body of 2,300 men, regulars and militia, crossed the river above Detroit and marched to Sandwich in the province of Upper Canada. He there issued a proclamation to the Canadians in a style expressing great confidence of success, and threatening a *war of extermination* in case of the employment of savages, which appeared to be an object of his peculiar dread. The Indians were, however, already engaged in hostilities with the subjects of the United States on their border; and intelligence was soon after received of the capture of Fort Michilimachinack, July 17, by a combined force of English, Canadians, and Savages, the latter of whom were hitherto kept in perfect order. General Hull's next operations were directed against Fort Malden or Amherstburg; and after having driven in the militia who opposed him, he arrived with part of his forces at the river Canard, which he thrice attempted to cross, but was foiled with considerable loss. Major-General Brock, in the British service, had in the meantime been active in collecting succours for the relief of Fort Amherstburg, and on August 12, he entered that place with a reinforcement, having met with no obstacle, on account of the superiority of the British naval force on the lakes. The Americans had now become dispirited, and had given up their hopes of taking the fort with their present means. They retreated to their own fort of Detroit, and the British in their turn became assailants. Batteries were constructed opposite to that post, and a party crossed the river, and took a position to the west of it. Gen. Brock

now resolved upon an assault, though his united force consisted of no more than about 700 men, including militia, and 600 auxiliary Indians. This extremity was, however, prevented by a proposal of capitulation from General Hull. The terms were soon settled, and the important fort of Detroit was surrendered, on August 16, with 2,500 men and 33 pieces of ordnance. (See London Gazette.) This was doubtless a severe mortification to the Americans, as it gave a decisive proof of the inferiority of their military prowess or skill to those of the enemy they had provoked, and damped their hopes of the conquest of Canada. That these had been sanguine, may be inferred from the refusal of the president of the United States to continue an armistice which had been temporarily agreed upon between General Prevost, the governor-general of Canada, and Gen. Dearborn, commander-in-chief of the American forces in the northern states. This measure had been proposed by the governor, in the hope that the repeal of the orders in council, of which intelligence had reached America, would have led to an amicable adjustment of the subsisting differences; but the government of the United States, determined, it should seem, to pursue a favourite object, would not consent to a suspension of its operations.

The loss and disgrace incurred by the surrender of Gen. Hull were, however, in some degree balanced to the Americans by their success on the element which had long been the theatre of triumph to their adversaries. The strength of the navy of the United States consisted

consisted in a few frigates of a rate corresponding to the largest British, but in size, weight of metal, and number of men, almost equal to ships of the line of battle. This difference seems not to have been known, or not attended to, in the English navy, the officers of which, with their habitual readiness to meet an enemy, would certainly never decline an encounter where the nominal force was any thing near a parity. In engaging with other enemies, the superiority of British skill and valour had indeed often compensated the difference of force, but the American navy was manned by sailors many of whom were, unfortunately, British, and many more had been trained in British service. The fatal consequence of this misapprehension was first experienced by the English frigate *Guerriere*, commanded by Captain Dacres, which, on August 19, being in lat. $40^{\circ} 20'$ and long. $55^{\circ} W$. was brought to action by the American frigate *Constitution*, Captain Hull. The respective force is thus stated: *Guerriere*, rating 38 guns, but mounting 49, her gun-deck 18 pounders, carronades 32; complement, 300 men, but only 263 on board at quarters: *Constitution*, rating 44 guns, but mounting 65, gun-deck 24 pounders, carronades 32 pounders; complement, 450 men. The engagement was sharp, but of short duration, for the *Guerriere* being totally dismasted, and rolling so deep as to render her guns useless, while the enemy was enabled to rake her at pleasure, it became absolutely necessary, in order to prevent a further loss of lives for no purpose, to strike her colours. Of the crew, 15 had

been killed, and 63 wounded, and the injury sustained by the ship was so great, that after the men were all taken out, the captors set her on fire. Not the least imputation fell on the conduct of Capt. Dacres or his ship's company during the action, who yielded only to irresistible superiority of physical strength. It is pleasing to add, that they received the most honourable and humane treatment from the American commander. The triumphant arrival of the *Constitution* at Boston, whence she had been fitted out, doubtless rendered the war less unpopular than it had originally been in that town, and stimulated the spirit of marine enterprize.

The English government, on the intelligence of a declaration of war by the Congress of the United States, and the issue of letters of marque and reprisals, had done no more by way of retaliation, than to direct that American ships and goods should be brought in and detained till further orders; but the disregard of the American government to the notified repeal of the orders in council, and its refusal to continue the armistice agreed upon by the commanders on each side in Canada, being now made known, the Prince Regent published an order, dated Oct. 13, for granting general reprisals against the ships, goods, and citizens of the United States, in the usual form towards a hostile power; concluding, however, with a declaration, that nothing in this order was to annul the authority before given to his Majesty's naval commander on the American station, to sign a convention for recalling all hostile orders issued by the

the respective governments, with a view of restoring the accustomed relations of amity and commerce.

Although the war declared by America against Great Britain might eventually operate in favour of France, and was undoubtedly suitable to the politics of that power, yet no proof has appeared of the existence of a proper French party in the United States; even the violent proceedings at Baltimore seemed to have no other causes than the rancour of opposite domestic factions, and considerations of local interest. But the existence of an Antigallican spirit was obvious and avowed, and detestation of the politics of the ruler of France was expressed with as little reserve in America as in England. Of this, a remarkable example was given in a memorial addressed to the president from the county of Rockingham in New Hampshire. After stating many arguments against the necessity and policy of war with England, it thus concludes: "On the subject of any French connexion, either close or more remote, we have made up our minds. We will, in no event, assist in uniting the republic of America with the military despotism of France. We will have no connexion with her principles or her power. If her armed troops, under whatever name or character, should come here, *we shall regard them as enemies.*" This remonstrance, amounting almost to a defiance of the supreme authority, was signed by 1,500 inhabitants. A similar spirit, though somewhat more guarded, was displayed in the resolutions of a body of more weight and consequence, being a conven-

tion of delegates from 34 cities and counties of the state of New York, held at Albany on the 17th and 18th of September. The resolutions chiefly go to an assertion of the right of citizens to inquire into the justice and expediency of a war, even after it is declared, and to a condemnation of the grounds of that entered into with England; though at the same time they acknowledge the obligation of paying full obedience in the capacity of magistrates, soldiers, and citizens, to all constitutional requisitions of the proper authorities. They proceed to state, that the subscribers shall be constrained to consider the determination to persist in the war, after official notice of the revocation of the British orders in council, as a proof that it has been undertaken on motives entirely distinct from those hitherto avowed; and "that they contemplate with abhorrence even the possibility of an alliance with the present emperor of France, every action of whose life has demonstrated, that the attainment, by any means, of universal empire, and the consequent extinction of every vestige of freedom, are the sole objects of his incessant, unbounded, and remorseless ambition." If this temper be generally prevalent in the northern states, an alliance offensive or defensive between France and the United States can scarcely be effected without a dissolution of the union, unless, in the progress of the war, the animosity against Great Britain, and the dread of her power, shall rise to a much higher pitch.

The disaster which befel Gen. Hull had disconcerted the plan for the invasion of Canada, but the design

design was by no means renounced. A considerable force was assembled in the neighbourhood of Niagara, and on October 13, the American General Wadsworth, with 13 or 1,400 men, made an attack on the British position of Queenstown, on the Niagara river. On receiving the intelligence, Major-General Brock hastened to the spot, and led on a few troops for its defence. He had previously sent orders to Brigade-Major Evans, who commanded at Fort George, to batter the opposite American Fort Niagara, which was done so effectually that the garrison was forced to abandon it. General Brock was unfortunately killed while cheering on his men, and the position was for a time taken by the enemy. Reinforcements, however, being brought up by Major-General Sheaffe, the next in command, the Americans were attacked; and after a short but sharp conflict, in which they sustained a considerable loss in killed and wounded, General Wadsworth surrendered himself prisoner on the field, with upwards of 900 men and many officers, the troops to which they yielded being about the same number. The loss on the part of the British was small, with the exception of General Brock, in whom his country was deprived of an officer of distinguished courage and ability. An account given of this affair to the American government by General Van Renselaer, contains some singular instances of want of concert and subordination, which prove how far the military establishment of the United States was at this period from the organization necessary for success against

a skilful and well-appointed adversary.

On November 4, Congress assembled after its adjournment, when a message from the president was communicated to both houses. Its leading topic was the state of the war in which the country was engaged, and a summary of its principal occurrences. In advert- ing to the failure of the attempts upon Canada, heavy complaints were made of the employment of savage auxiliaries by the British government, and inciting them to hostilities, for which, it was said, no pretext had been given by the example of the American government. The effect, however, was, stated to have been that of rousing to arms the citizens on the frontier, of whom, an ample force, with the addition of a few regulars, was proceeding towards the Michigan territory. A complaint was then made of a refusal on the part of the governors of Massachusetts and Connecticut to furnish the required detachments of militia towards the defence of the maritime frontier, in consequence of a novel exposition of the provisions of the constitution relative to the militia; and the bad effects of such a want of concurrence was pointed out. With respect to the overtures for an amicable termination of the differences with Great Britain, the president informed Congress of the terms on which their chargé d'affaires at London was authorised to agree to an armistice. These were, that the orders in council should be repealed as they affected the United States, without a revival of the blockades violating acknowledged rules;

rules; that there should be an immediate discharge of American seamen from British ships, and a stop to impressments from American ships, with an understanding that an exclusion of the seamen of each nation from the ships of the other should be stipulated, and that the armistice should be improved into a final adjustment of all depending controversies. This advance, the president says, was declined, from an avowed repugnance to suspending the practice of impressing during the armistice, and without any intimation that the arrangement proposed respecting seamen would be accepted. With respect to France, he complains of the continued procrastination in finishing the discussions between the nations; and in noticing the French decree, "purporting to be a definitive repeal of the Berlin and Milan decrees," he says, that although made the ground of the repeal of the British orders in council, it is rendered, by the time and manner of it, liable to many objections. He concludes with recommending proper measures for a vigorous prosecution of the war, and with a solemn assertion of the justice of the cause for which it was undertaken.

The correspondence between Lord Castlereagh and Mr. Russell, and between Admiral Warren and Mr. Monroe, respecting an armistice and negotiation, was laid before Congress, and afterwards printed in the American papers.

The balance of success in the naval war continued to preponderate on the side of the Americans. Besides the numerous captures made by their privateers, actions took place between ships of

war which tended to augment their confidence. On the 18th of October, his Majesty's armed brig *Frolic*, convoying the homeward-bound trade from the bay of Honduras, while in the act of repairing damages to her masts and sails received in a violent gale on the preceding night, descried a vessel which gave chase to the convoy. She proved to be the United States sloop of war *Wasp*, which the *Frolic* gallantly brought to action, though in her crippled state, in order to save her convoy. She soon, however, became so unmanageable, that the *Wasp* was enabled to take a raking position, whilst the *Frolic* could not get a gun to bear. The result was, that every individual officer being wounded, and not more than 20 of the crew remaining unhurt, the enemy boarded, and made prize of the brig. On the same afternoon, however, his Majesty's ship *Poictiers* re-captured the *Frolic*, and took the *Wasp*. The respective force of the two vessels is not mentioned, but Captain Whinyates of the *Frolic*, represents his fire as superior in the beginning, and attributes his misfortune solely to the injury done to his vessel by the storm.

A second action between frigates of the two nations was of much more serious consequence. The Macedonian frigate, Capt. Carden, being in lat. 29, long. 29°, 30' W. on October 25, descried a ship which proved to be a large frigate under American colours. He did not hesitate to close with her as soon as possible, and the action began at nine A. M. After an hour's firing, on coming to close quarters, he found his antagonist's force

force so much superior, that he had no chance for success, except from some fortunate accident. He bravely continued the action to two hours and ten minutes, when the injuries his ship sustained from the enemy's fire having rendered her a perfect wreck, lying like a log upon the water, whilst his opponent was still in good condition, and a heavy loss being incurred in killed and wounded, he submitted, however unwillingly, to surrender rather than make still greater sacrifices. On being taken on board the enemy's ship, the United States, Commodore Decatur, he ceased to wonder at the event of the battle. She was of the scantling of a 74 gun ship, mounted thirty 24-pounders on her main-deck, 22 carronades 42-pounders two 24-pounders on her quarter-deck and fore-castle, and had a complement of 478 picked men. Of Captain Carden's crew there were 104 killed and wounded. In these several defeats sustained by the British navy no honour was lost, since every thing was done in

defence that could be effected by courage and conduct against superior force; but the unusual circumstance of English striking to foreign ships of a similar class, produced as much mortification on one side, as triumph on the other, and both beyond the occasion.

The American government seems, notwithstanding its failures by land, to have persisted in its purpose of invading Canada. Gen. Dearborn, on November 16, broke up his camp from Plattsburg, and marched to Champlain, on the Canada line, the nearest point to Montreal. No operations of consequence, however, were undertaken during the remainder of the year.

In England, more active measures by sea against a foe now regarded as worthy of serious attention, were contemplated, and a public notice was issued by the Prince Regent, on December 26, that the ports and harbours of the Chesapeake and Delaware were placed in a state of blockade.

CHAPTER XX.

Spanish America—Buenos Ayres and Montevideo—Venezuela—Surrender of Caraccas, and counter Revolution—Mexico—Conspiracy at Vera Cruz—Peru—West India Islands—Jamaica—Dominica—Barbadoes—St. Domingo—East Indies—Surrender of Kallinjar—Java—Conspiracy at Travancore—Mauritius—Persia.

THE provinces of Spanish America were still the theatre of a sanguinary civil war between the two parties of independents and loyalists, and the mother country remained in great measure deprived of the aids which she had been accustomed to receive from these rich possessions.

The negotiations mentioned in the history of the last year as having been commenced in the month of October between the Viceroy Elio and the Junta of Buenos Ayres, were concluded by a treaty of pacification dated the 21st. The articles begin with the resolution of both parties to acknowledge no other sovereign than Ferdinand VII. The Junta then, though considering itself at present without the necessary powers for recognizing the authority of the Cortes, yet makes a declaration of the indivisible unity of the Spanish nation, of which the provinces of the River Plate form an integral part. It also consents to remit to Spain all the pecuniary succours it is able to contribute, for the support of the war in which she is engaged against the usurper of Europe. Another article defines the districts which are severally to remain subject to the Junta and

the Viceroy, and the latter pledges himself for the withdrawal of the Portuguese troops from the Spanish territory. Correspondence and commerce are to be restored between Buenos Ayres and Montevideo, and foreign ships may enter the ports of both territories. The Viceroy declares that no change shall take place in the system established by this treaty, till the Cortes make known their pleasure, which shall be communicated to the government of Buenos Ayres.

From the terms of this convention, so favourable to the interests of the mother country, it may be conjectured that the Junta of Buenos Ayres found themselves under difficulties in maintaining sufficient authority to enable them to support the cause of independence; and some subsequent events proved, that even in the capital, dissensions prevailed among those engaged in the same cause. On December 7, the patrician body of troops, discontented at the appointment of a new colonel without consulting them, turned out the whole of their officers from the barracks. The other regiments were immediately called to arms, and cannon were planted in the streets. An action ensued, in which,

which, after considerable bloodshed, the patricians were obliged to surrender, and the ringleaders were tried and condemned, some to be shot, and others to imprisonment. The old Junta had been deposed in the preceding month and a new one established, consisting of only four members. The Cabildo interfered with them in the management of public affairs, and party contests were extremely prevalent in the city. In the meantime their authority in the provinces was diminished, and that of Cordóva threw off its dependence on the capital, and set up a government of its own. To these evils was added a quarrel with the Portuguese, whose troops sent in aid of the Montevideans refused to return home according to the stipulation in the late treaty, and took possession of Maldonado. A corps under General Artigas was sent from Buenos Ayres to dislodge them, which entered the territory of Montevideo, contrary to agreement, and made an attack upon a body of Portuguese, but without success. The Montevideans were irritated with this breach of treaty, and fitted out a naval force to prevent the troops of Buenos Ayres from passing to their side of the river; whilst the government of Buenos Ayres, in order to provide supplies for a war, had laid an embargo on all property belonging to Spaniards in Europe, Lima, Montevideo, and the Peruvian provinces occupied by the adverse party. In this state were affairs about the middle of February. Advices in March stated that the blockade of Buenos Ayres was resumed by the Montevidean squadron, and that the property of

Spaniards was still under sequestration at that city, but had not been confiscated.

Further advices received from Buenos Ayres, up to May 20, gave some particulars of the hostility subsisting between the Junta of that city, and the viceroy (now Vicedet) at Montevideo. The occurrences were of no great importance; but the papers on each side displayed a high degree of animosity. The Portuguese, whom the Montevideans denominated "their generous allies," were encamped on the rivulet of St. Francisco, 18 leagues from Salto, where Artigas was posted with the troops of Buenos Ayres. At this last city had arrived two ships from Philadelphia laden with arms and military stores.

Not long after, Buenos Ayres was on the brink of experiencing a counter-revolution from a conspiracy in its bosom, which, had it been carried into effect, would probably have rendered the whole city a scene of bloodshed and rapine. A Spaniard, named Martín Alzaga, represented as a man of a daring and turbulent disposition, associated a considerable number of his countrymen, under an oath of secrecy, in a plot, the purpose of which was to take possession by surprise of all the strong posts of the city, disarm the Americans, and restore the ascendancy of the Spaniards. With this was connected the assassination of the members of government and magistrates, and doubtless many other persons of consequence were marked as victims. The discovery of the design was owing to the incautious language held by one of the conspirators in the presence of a slave, who reported

ported what he had heard to a person in his confidence, by whom it was disclosed to the government. The fact was made known in a proclamation, issued on July 4, by the superior authorities; and on the 25th it was announced in another proclamation that twenty-five of the conspirators had perished on the scaffold, and that judicial proceedings were still going on against persons suspected of being accomplices. Upon the first alarm it is said that more than six thousand men speedily collected to assist the regular force in guarding the city, and apprehending the guilty. The government of Montevideo in consequence of these events prohibited all intercourse with Buenos Ayres. The Portuguese troops commenced a retreat from San Francisco on July 13, an armistice having taken place between the Prince Regent of Portugal and the government of Buenos Ayres. This measure was notified by the latter in a gazette extraordinary, in terms that gave offence to the court of Rio Janeiro, which thought proper officially to contradict the assertion that his Royal Highness had solicited the armistice, and affirmed that he had assented to it only in furtherance of the beneficent views and wishes of his Britannic Majesty, for the restoration of tranquillity to the provinces of the river Plate. The friendly mediation of the British court on this occasion was well received at Buenos Ayres, and rendered the English name more popular than it had lately been.

In a further account from that city dated August 31, it is said that the Junta had dispatched an officer to the viceroy at Montevideo

with a proposal to send deputies to treat for the cessation of hostilities, which, it was hoped, might lead to the renewal of a friendly communication between the parties.

The province of Venezuela, which had so decidedly declared an absolute independence on the mother country, was in the early part of this year visited by a terrible catastrophe, the effects of which had a powerful influence upon its political state. On the 26th of March, in the afternoon, a violent shock of an earthquake was felt at the city of Caraccas, which threw down the greatest part of its buildings, and buried a great number of the inhabitants under their ruins. Its port of La Guayra participated in the destruction; and several other towns in the province were sufferers from the same dreadful calamity, which extended over a wide district (*See Chronicle*). To tranquillize the minds of the people after this disaster, a proclamation was issued by the government, drawn up in an admirable spirit of patriotism, and sound philosophy. The following extract will show what were the impressions on the occasion from which it was thought most necessary to guard the public mind. "What consequence will you draw from this terrible event? The superstitious and fanatic will tell you, in mysterious language, that it is a punishment of God, who, in his displeasure, especially against the inhabitants of this city, has in this manner manifested his wrath. The ill-affected will suggest to you, that nothing better is to be expected by a city hated by God for having proclaimed her independence, and declared herself
against

against the tyranny of the ambitious. The enemies of liberty and equality will endeavour to persuade you, that the noble resolution with which Caraccas detests tyrants, and makes war against despots, is the cause of this disaster, and that only by changing your sentiments, and by again bending yourself to the yoke which you have shaken off, you will appease the anger of the Almighty. Such will certainly be the language of the superstitious, the ill-affected, and the enemy. But, citizens, a true Christian, who follows the doctrine of Jesus Christ, divested of trifling prejudices and partial interests, will tell you, that the earthquake had the same origin as the various beauties and horrors which are daily experienced by the human race in every part of the globe—the necessary operation of that nature which God ordered so as to excite his creatures to admire his omnipotence, to adore him in his works, and to acknowledge that men were not created for the apparent felicity of this life." All the rest of this address is in the same manly and enlightened strain, and does honour to the composer, Dr. Miguel Jose Sanz, vice-president of the representative body.

The evil consequences, however, which were anticipated in the proclamation, did not fail to take place. The ecclesiastics inculcated the notion that the earthquake was a punishment inflicted by heaven on account of the province's renunciation of its allegiance to Ferdinand VII., and their influence over a bigoted people, now depressed from the severe losses they had sustained, rendered such an idea deeply impressive. A

correspondence was entered into by some persons of weight, with the Spaniards in Porto Rico, and with the royal army at Coro, commanded by General Monteverde. This leader, taking advantage of the discouragement and disunion prevalent among the independent party, and joined by a body of troops from Maracaybo, entered Valencia in April, without opposition, General Miranda and the Congress, who had retired thither after the earthquake, retreating before him. He thence advanced to Mearani, which was evacuated by Miranda, who withdrew to Victoria. Other places submitted without a struggle, apparently wearied with the sacrifices demanded for maintaining their newly-acquired freedom. In this emergency, the states of the confederation had recourse to the desperate expedient of creating a dictator invested with unlimited powers, which office they conferred on Miranda in the month of May. He issued a proclamation on the occasion, in which he set forth the perilous circumstances of the country, and the evils prevailing in the commonwealth, of which the most urgent was the total disorder of the finances. He suggested some measures to be employed for the melioration of their affairs, and solemnly promised never to sheath the sword till he had established the liberty of Venezuela, and avenged her of her enemies.

Success still attended the royalists, who, on July 6, took by surprise the important harbour of Porto Cavello. Miranda is then said to have agreed upon an armistice which terminated in a secret capitulation. However that might be,

be, he appears to have made no effectual resistance to the progress of the royalists; for, on July 28, Caracas capitulated to Monteverde, and three days afterwards, its port of La Guayra surrendered at discretion. Miranda, who had gone thither with the intention of embarking on board an English vessel with his treasure, was delivered up, it is affirmed, by his own party, and was confined in a dungeon; probably, therefore, he was falsely charged with previously negotiating with the opposite party. Thus, to all appearance, has terminated the independence of Venezuela, which, in its beginning, seemed firmly based on the general consent of a high-spirited and enlightened people. Want of steadiness and moderation, the radical faults of the Creole character, had rendered the success of the revolution dubious even before the terrible earthquake, though that event undoubtedly hastened its defeat. Miranda was sent to Spain in the beginning of October. Don Fernando Melhado came from Porto Rico to take possession of the province of Caracas, but Monteverde refused to deliver it up in its present unsettled state.

In the viceroyalty of new Granada, towards the close of 1811, the province of Santa Martha, which adhered to Spain, proclaimed war against that of Carthagena, which had declared itself independent, had abolished the Inquisition, and administered oaths of fidelity to the officers, civil and military. Several battles, with alternate success but little bloodshed, had been fought between the two contending provinces on the river Magdalena, upon both banks of which

fortifications had been erected. No information has reached us of the sequel of events in these parts.

The rich and extensive kingdom of Mexico has been a theatre of war and confusion during the whole of the year. Accounts received thence in Nov. 1811, mentioned that the southern coast was in a state of complete insurrection; that in the center of the kingdom parties of insurgents were numerous, and did not, as formerly, disperse on the approach of the royalists; and that in New Galicia alone tranquillity was preserved by the exertions of the viceroy's troops. Communications from province to province were cut off; the working of the mines, and agriculture, were suspended; and a British frigate was about to sail from Vera Cruz without the bullion which she expected to receive.

In the month of March, intelligence was received, that a dangerous conspiracy was discovered at Vera Cruz on the 16th, the plan of which was, to gain possession of the park of artillery, the bastions, the volunteers' quarter, and the port of La Mole, and by calling the people to arms, to revolutionize the city. Above thirty persons were apprehended as having been concerned in this plot, and it was found that they had set on foot a correspondence with Morellos, the revolutionary leader, who had promised to assist them. It was added, that news had arrived from the city of Mexico, stating that the royal general Calleja was continuing the siege of Quatla, where Morellos had posted himself; and that tranquillity prevailed in the rest of the kingdom. The next account from Vera Cruz, however, affirmed that

the Mexican insurgents amounted in number to 74,000; and that the reinforcements which had arrived from Cadiz would be barely sufficient to keep them in check, but by no means to suppress them.

A letter from Vera Cruz, dated July 17, says, "The rebels approach even to our walls. It is now two months since we heard whether Xalapa exists; and we know as little of Oaxaca and Guatemala, because the whole leeward coast is in a state of revolt. We have received with difficulty a single letter from Mexico, which confirms the account of the defeat of Morelos in Cuantla-amilpas. It appears, however, that he succeeded in escaping with sixty of his partizans, and is now at the head of 14,000 men, with whom he is obstructing the roads." Further advices received at New Orleans from Mexico up to August 19, stated that the insurgents had two large armies on foot; one commanded by Ryan (Ravon), the other by Morelos: that the former was laying siege to the city of Mexico; and the latter, after having reduced Acapulco, had marched across the table land, defeated the royal army under Calejas, and pursued its advantages to the very walls of Vera Cruz, which it had invested. But this account is suspected of exaggeration.

Our information of the state of affairs in Peru is very scanty, and little more is known in general than that considerable commotions still subsist in that kingdom. It is asserted from Buenos Ayres that symptoms of an independent spirit were manifested at Lima; and that on March 4, the governor offered to instal a

Junta, provided the presidency were secured to himself, and the government at Cadiz was recognized. The province of Cochabamba continued its connection with the Junta of Buenos Ayres, and had a military force on foot. The province of Potosi, with the greater part of Peru, remained faithful to the mother country. Goyoneche, the royal commander, was at the head of 4,000 men; and in July was said to be advancing to Cochabamba, having routed some detachments which opposed his march.

Such, upon the whole, was the mass of intelligence received during this year, from the southern parts of America; from the general result of which it may be inferred, that the cause of colonial independence rather lost than gained ground; and if Spain should be able finally to free herself from her invaders, and recover her place among nations, it is probable, by adopting a liberal system of policy towards her transatlantic subjects, that she might still retain them under her dominion, though certainly not bound by those fetters in which she has so long held them.

The West India islands have afforded little matter for the history of the present year. At Jamaica a disposition was shown in the House of Assembly, towards the close of the past year, to withhold the usual supplies for the maintenance of the troops, on the pretext of the taxes with which the island was burdened, and other grievances; but the opposition party was out-voted. In answer, however, to a message from the lieutenant-governor, recommending to

the house to furnish supplies for various fortifications, it was represented, that such was the distress of their constituents, that they could not provide money for many objects which they thought highly expedient; and they asserted that the expence of the ordnance department ought to be defrayed at the general cost of the empire. They passed a resolution for the support of the white troops necessary for the protection of the island, but upon a new and more economical plan.

At Dominica, some differences rose between the governor, Barnes, and the council. The governor had dissolved two successive Houses of Assembly; one for having refused to vote the necessary supplies; the other for having declined to meet in October last, when a general alarm prevailed on account of the conspiracy at Martinique. The board of council, declaring their disapprobation of the refusal of the house to meet for the dispatch of public business, added their belief that the motives which actuated the individuals were good, and that the utmost harmony prevailed in the legislative intercourse between the board and the house. Governor Barnes commented with severity upon the inconsistency of this declaration, and from several circumstances intimated his opinion that there was a design to alienate the affections of the French inhabitants from his Majesty's government.

In consequence of the scarcity of provisions in Barbadoes, the legislature, at the recommendation of the governor, granted a bounty on the importation of

yams, potatoes, and plantains, from Dutch Guiana; and the governor by proclamation opened the ports for some other articles of supply. These measures were productive of beneficial effects.

Soon after the commencement of the American war, the West Indian seas swarmed with privateers; which made numerous captures, and from the shelter they obtained in small islands of difficult access, were not easily discovered or avoided. A meeting of the merchants and others concerned in the coasting trade of Jamaica was held at Kingston on September 25, in which a resolution was passed relative to its unprotected state, and a committee was appointed to wait upon Vice-admiral Sterling, requesting him to grant all the protection to the coast in his power to afford. He informed them that two cruizers were already stationed on the coasts, and that upon the arrival of other vessels of war, they should be employed on the same service. It appears, however, that during the remainder of the year, the defence of the commerce of the West India islands was very inadequate to the means of annoyance possessed by the enemy.

The usual periodical scourge of these islands, a hurricane, occurred on the night of October 12, and occasioned much damage in various parts of Jamaica, sweeping away outhouses and negro habitations, unroofing buildings, tearing up trees by the roots, and destroying cane and other plantations. The mischief at sea was not very considerable, the duration of the tempestuous weather being short. At St. Lucia most of the vessels in

the port were driven on shore, but it was expected that some of them would be got off again.

The negro government of St. Domingo (Hayti) has this year been a scene of that disorder and mutation, which may always be expected where the strongest sword is the only source of authority. The mimic monarch, Christophe, has been encountered with superior force by his rival Petion, and for the time, at least, has sunk under the contest. Petion is stated to have made the whole of Christophe's cavalry prisoners about the 15th of April. During his absence, however, from Port au Prince, Christophe had suddenly appeared before that place, and gained possession of a strong fort; on which account all the British shipping had been ordered away by Captain Vashon. But this success was only temporary. Petion took from him St. Mark's, Cape Nicholas Mole, and Gonaives. Christophe was deserted by his staff officers, and fled to the mountains; and, in fine, the seat of his power, Cape François, submitted without resistance to his rival, who advanced to it at the head of 12,000 men.

The occurrences reported during this year from the British possessions in the East Indies have been of no great importance. The strong fortress of Kallinjur in Bundelcund has submitted to the British arms, after a resistance which in the first instance was successful. Colonel Martindell, who commanded the force led against it, ordered an assault on February 2. The troops advanced in three columns to storm a breach which had been made by the artillery, but on arriving under the walls, they

found a perpendicular precipice to be surmounted before it could be reached. Ladders were applied, which were thrown down by the garrison, and in the mean time the assailants were exposed to a very destructive fire of cannon and musketry. They at length found it necessary to retreat, with a severe loss of officers and men, which chiefly fell upon the European part of the force. The action, however, was not thrown away, for the display of courage and enterprise made such an impression on the commander of the fort, that he soon after surrendered by capitulation.

Accounts from Java state, that an expedition fitted out at Batavia, under colonel Gillespie and Captain Sayer of the *Leda*, against Palambang, had been completely successful; and that on its return, the army had been employed against the rajah of Jacgocatra, who had shown symptoms of disaffection. His fortress and town were stormed, and himself taken prisoner, with the whole of his property. Though he had a force of 10,000 men, the loss of the victors was inconsiderable. The Dutch islands of Macassar and Timour are also said to have been captured by the same expedition; and the resources of Java were found sufficient not only for its own security, but for aiding in the general defence of the British empire. The fort of Nowanuggar belonging to the Jamburaiah, submitted to the British arms on February 24, just as the troops brought against it under Lieutenant colonel Lionel Smith were on the point of storming.

A dangerous conspiracy was detected among the native troops at Travancore, the object of which was,

to massacre their European officers whilst assembled at an entertainment to be given by the British resident at that court. It was disclosed by a confidential sepcy, and the ringleaders were seized upon, two of whom, native officers, were blown from a cannon in front of the line drawn up to witness their punishment. Several Nairs and Faquirs, instigators of the mutiny, were afterwards hung.

Governor Farquhar of the Mauritius made public, in May, a correspondence with Rear-Admiral Stopford at the Cape of Good Hope, in which the latter announces his receipt from England of the act imposing fresh penalties against any further traffic in slaves, and

declares the impossibility of suffering the admission of slaves into the islands under his excellency's government. At the same time the governor informed the merchants, planters, and other inhabitants of the islands, that regulations had been made for trade between England and them, by which they were placed on the same footing with the private merchants in other parts of India.

Accounts were received from Persia that a definitive treaty of alliance between that government and Great Britain had been concluded by Sir Gore Ouseley, on terms highly advantageous to this country.

CHAPTER XXI.

Meeting of the New Parliament—Regent's Speech, and Debates thereon—Thanks and Grant to Lord Wellington—Renewal of the Gold Coin Bill—Motion on the German Legion—Prince Regent's Message respecting a Grant to Russia, and Debates.

ON November 24th the House of Lords having assembled, a commission was appointed for the new parliament. The attendance of the Commons was then requested, and the commission was read. The Commons were then directed by the Lord Chancellor to proceed to the choice of a Speaker; and on the same day, a number of members having been sworn, Sir John Nicholl rose, and proposed the late Speaker, Mr. Abbott, for that office. His motion was seconded by Mr. Cartwright, and was received with great applause from all parts of the house. Mr. Abbott was accordingly placed in the chair, and the house adjourned to the next day. The other usual forms being gone through, the Prince Regent, on the 30th, came to the House of Lords in state, and delivered a speech from the throne. After touching upon his Majesty's lamented indisposition, and the diminished hopes of his recovery, his Royal Highness adverted to the successes in the Peninsula under the conduct of Lord Wellington, and their final good effects, notwithstanding his retreat from Burgos, and evacuation of Madrid. He then mentioned the restoration of peace and friendship with the courts of

Petersburgh and Stockholm, and spoke in terms of eulogy of the resistance made by Russia to the arms of their invaders auguring a happy termination of the contest. He informed parliament of a supplementary treaty entered into with his Sicilian Majesty and hinted at the new measures concerted with the government of that island, for an active co-operation in the common cause. With respect to the declaration of war by the United States of America, he observed, that it was made under circumstances which might have afforded a reasonable expectation that the amicable relations between the two countries would not be long interrupted; but that the conduct and pretensions of that government had hitherto prevented any arrangement for that purpose. He took notice of the defeat of the attempts against Canada; and said, that his efforts were still directed to the restoration of peace, but that until this object could be attained without sacrificing the maritime rights of Great Britain, he should rely on their support for a vigorous prosecution of the war. The conclusion of the speech recommended an early consideration of a provision for the effectual government of the Indian provinces,

in consequence of the approaching expiration of the charter of the East India Company. It adverted to the success of the means employed for suppressing the spirit of outrage and insubordination which had appeared in some parts of the country, and expressed a hope that atrocities so repugnant to the British character would never recur; and ended with the usual declaration of confidence in the wisdom of parliament, and the loyalty of the people.

The accustomed complimentary address was moved in the House of Lords by Lord Longford, and seconded by Lord Rolle. The Marquis Wellesley then arose, and after an introduction alluding to a passage in the speech expressing the Prince Regent's conviction that he should find no want of that firmness and perseverance in the prosecution of the war, which had distinguished parliament on former occasions, he proceeded to a review of the events in the war with Spain. Laying it down as a principle that the war was necessary in order to check the ambitious projects of the French ruler, and divert his forces, and affirming that the successes of the last campaign, imperfect as they were, had been felt in Russia as the salvation of that empire, he drew the inference, that whilst France was engaged in the north, we ought to have redoubled our efforts in the opposite quarter, and "to have strained our resources to the utmost extremity." "I wish, my lords (said he) we could fix in our minds some definite idea of the object of our exertions in the Peninsula. My own idea has always been, that the true object

of the Spanish contest was, the expulsion of the French forces from Spain. This is the clear practical object at which we ought to aim. With this, then, in our view, let us inquire what has been done, compared with what might have been done. I have said elsewhere, that it was my opinion that the war in the Peninsula had not been carried on with adequate vigour for this purpose." The marquis then went on to a critical examination of the last campaign in Spain, in which, while paying a tribute of praise to Lord Wellington, almost exceeding the modesty of fraternal eulogy, he attempted to show that his plans had been continually cramped by a deficiency of strength, that supplies were scanty and tardy, that co-operation was feeble and ill-directed, and that the system adopted by ministers was "timid without prudence, and narrow without economy; profuse without the fruits of expenditure, and slow without the benefits of caution." His lordship commented upon other points touched in the speech; but concluded with saying, that he should move no amendment on the address, and that his chief intention had been to press upon the house the great subject of the Spanish war, in which we had no alternative between vigour and defeat.

Lord Liverpool in reply observed, that it was extremely easy for the noble lord to sit down in his closet, and wish for, or imagine, a particular effort of any given magnitude; but must not every exertion depend on the applicable resources of the country, and

and be proportioned to the demand made upon it from other quarters? He desired to know what additional exertions could have been made. They had, in effect, grown with the progress of the war. Three or four years ago it would not have been thought practicable to make those efforts in the Peninsula which the country had recently witnessed. He then made the following statement; that independently of the force required for the maintenance of our Indian empire, our colonial possessions, and for our domestic defence, we had, on the 25th of June, in Sicily, the Mediterranean, and the Peninsula, a force of 127,000 men, of which the British troops (including the Germans) amounted to 91,000, and the Portuguese to 36,000. In June last, Lord Wellington had under his command 58,000 British troops, exclusive of Portuguese. Since the 24th of December last, not fewer than 20,000 men and 7,000 horses had been conveyed to the Peninsula. He said further, that never had any requisition been made by Lord Wellington that had not been complied with. Lord Liverpool made observations on some other points in which the marquis had formed objections to the speech; and with respect to the omission of mentioning the Catholic question, he acknowledged that for his part he had not been able to see his way to any satisfactory adjustment.

Lord Grenville restated the views on which he had originally opposed the war in the Peninsula, and attributed the disappointments there chiefly to the delusion of ministers in trusting to the co-

operation of the Spanish armies. In adverting to the American war, he said, he could not repress his astonishment and indignation at the language of those who professed their belief that the abandonment of the orders in council would necessarily lead to the restoration of peace. There was a time when such a concession would have produced both peace and alliance; but, as in the first fatal war with America, concession was made too late. He thought the house was indecently pledged in the address to the prosecution of this war, though not a document was produced to prove its justice.

After some other speaking on the occasion, the address was agreed to without a division.

In the House of Commons, the address on the speech was moved by Lord Clive, who was seconded by Mr. Hart Davis. Mr. Canning then arose, and very exactly pursued the same line of argument and eloquence with that followed by Marquis Wellesley in the other house. The vigorous prosecution of the war in every quarter was the point which he principally laboured to enforce, and he concluded amidst expressions of applause from different parts of the house. Lord Castlereagh then took up the ministerial cause, on the ground that Lord Liverpool maintained in the House of Lords. Mr. Whitbread afterwards made a number of observations, the general tenor of which was, to moderate the high-wrought descriptions and sanguine expectations presented in the speeches of those who preceded him, and to inculcate the propriety of taking the opportunity of a time

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at which the different contending powers had all experienced reverses, to set on foot negotiations for peace. He then proposed an amendment to the address, which consisted in omitting the warlike part of it, and terminating by recommending to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the present state of affairs, when no dishonourable object could be imputed to great Britain, Russia, or France, the commencement of overtures for the general pacification of Europe.

Sir George Heathcote seconded the amendment, and some other members joined in the debates, after which the address was voted without a division.

On the question for bringing up the report of the address in the House of Commons, December 1st, Mr. Creevey rose to notice the omission in the speech of any mention of the state of the revenue and commerce of the country, and after some observations on this head moved, as an amendment, that the address be brought up this day week. It was seconded by Captain Bennett; and the question being put, a desultory debate or conversation ensued, in which a number of members gave their opinion on various topics suggested by the address; as, war and peace, the finances, the dispute with America, &c. These, on the present occasion, could be discussed only in a very cursory manner; for, as Mr. Ponsonby remarked, addresses were now merely complimentary echoes to the speech, and were no more pledges to any specific measures to be proposed by ministers, than

the signature of "your very humble servant" to a letter, pledged the subscriber to a particular service. Two facts, however, were stated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer which may deserve recording: that in 1809 the sum of 2,800,000*l.* had been granted for the service of the Peninsula, and during the eleven corresponding months of the present year, no less than 11½ millions had been applied to the support of the Spanish cause; and that, while the exports of the kingdom were in the last year but 8½ millions, in this year they were 13 millions. He also explained a supposed idea thrown out by him concerning a tax on capital, to have been no more than an assertion, that if the necessity of such a tax should occur, the nation would bear it rather than submit to an insatiable and insolent enemy. The address was then read and agreed to.

Thanks to Lord Wellington, and a grant to him of 100,000*l.* to be laid out in land, were the subjects which next engaged both houses of parliament; but as they exercised the oratory rather than the argumentative powers, of the different speakers—since there was scarcely any other contention than which party should most highly extol the merits of the illustrious general—it is unnecessary in this place to record any particulars. The votes on both questions passed unanimously.

A second reading of the renewed gold coin bill being the order of the day in the House of Commons on December 8th, Mr. Creevey rose to state his objections to the Bill. He said, that when the bullion

bullion committee sat upwards of two years ago, gold was at 4*l.* 10*s.* an ounce, but was at present 5*l.* 5*s.* an ounce, so that the depreciation of paper was 35 per cent. The obligation to take paper at its nominal value was therefore an enormous violation of property, by which all classes were losers except the Bank. As the measure had produced such mischievous consequences, and there was danger that the depreciation might go still further, he wished time might be given for reconsidering the subject, and he moved that, instead of the words "be now read a second time," there be inserted that it "be read a second time on the 3rd of February." In the debate which ensued, much of the ground was again gone over which had been taken at the first passing of the bill. One of the most material circumstances which occurred was a question put by Mr. Ponsonby to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what price he gave for bills to remit abroad? which for some time he declined to answer; but at length he said 67 pence per milrea. In answer to a complaint of an excessive issue of paper currency by the bank, Mr. Manning stated that the amount yesterday was 22½ millions, whereas in July and August 1810 it was near 25 millions. The general opinion in the house seemed to be that the measure, however objectionable in its principles, was at this time necessary; and on a division, the second reading was carried by 129 against 19.

On the bringing up of the report of the gold coin bill, De-

cember 11th, Mr. Whitbread, in order, he said, to bring the matter to a test, moved the rescinding the third resolution of May last, which stated the opinion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, "that in all cases wherein coin might be used for legal purposes, the promissory notes of the bank of England, and guineas, were, in public estimation, considered equivalent, and were generally so accepted." Upon this motion the house divided. Noes 63; Ayes 26—Majority against it 37.

Mr. Huskisson then rose, and said, that if the observations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer were correct, they must go to this length—that the paper currency could not fail under these conditions; 1. that the coin should remain under a determinate weight and value as fixed by the royal authority: 2. that the paper currency should exactly correspond with the coin according to its denomination: 3. that the law should be re-enacted making it penal to doubt the equivalency of the two sorts of currency. Thus then, if paper currency should fall so low as that a nominal thousand pound's worth would buy only a quartern loaf, still coin should retain its relative value to the paper, and it should be penal to make any difference between them. But it was impossible that any legislative act should establish such an equalization. He had been informed that government had sent a great number of bank notes to Canada for the payment of our troops and other establishments in that province, and that, being estimated according to their real value, they were

were sold there at a discount of 30 per cent. From the necessity of the case he had approved of that part of the bill which virtually made bank notes a legal tender, but he could see no use in that part which made it criminal to sell gold coin at more than the legal value. A few low and ignorant people had been convicted upon it, while millions of guineas had been exported, notwithstanding all the vigilance of government. He was not alarmed at the idea of a gold price and a paper price, which had prevailed in Ireland, and now subsisted in Portugal, where the effect was, that their gold coin was still in circulation, while ours had all disappeared.

Instances were given by other members of the actual existence of two prices in this country; and several of the former arguments on the subject were recapitulated. The report was, however, agreed to.

The debate was resumed on the motion for the third reading of the bill, December 14; but the reading was carried on a division, by 80 against 15.

In the House of Lords, the gold coin bill underwent but little discussion, and it passed into a law before the recess.

On December 10th, Lord Falkstone rose in the House of Commons, in pursuance of his notice, to call the attention of the house to an important subject. He had in the last session complained of an infraction of the law by the employment of foreign officers in the British army, and a return had been ordered, which was incom-

plete, as it only contained those employed at home, and not those on foreign service. He should therefore make motions to supply this defect. His lordship then adverted to an order in the Gazette, in August last, relative to German officers, which stated, that in consideration of their services, particularly at the battle of Salamanca, they should receive instead of temporary, permanent rank in the army. This appeared to him an attempt to introduce permanently and for ever in our army those officers who were, under an act of parliament, serving only in a temporary way, till one year after the conclusion of the war. But he understood that another construction was put upon it, and he begged leave to ask the noble lord opposite (Palmerston) whether he was right in his interpretation, or, if not, what was the real meaning of the order?

Lord Palmerston at first only replied that the effect of the order was not to give to foreign officers any advantages or privileges inconsistent with the act under which they were serving. This explanation not being satisfactory to Lord Falkstone, he moved for an address to the Prince Regent for copies of all the orders issued respecting the rank of officers serving in the German legion.

Lord Palmerston then observed, that the arguments of the noble lord were founded on a misconception which might be sufficiently explained. Temporary and permanent rank in the army were terms that merely designated two different services. Permanent rank meant the ordinary rank and pro-

motion

motion of the army. Temporary rank signified an exception, and was generally given to those who raised men for rank, and for other reasons which occasioned the granting them high commissions. It was also confined to particular corps and services, but did not give full brevet promotions with the rest of the army, nor did it confer half pay. His lordship went on to state the different conditions on which foreign corps were serving in our army; and said, that the order, in fact, did not apply to all the German officers, but only to those of higher ranks who had entitled themselves to favour and reward. All these officers, however, were serving under a law which declared a limit to their services; and the order could not be meant to operate in defiance of the law. It was, he conceived, clear, that when the operation of the law ceased, the commissions must fall to the ground with that act in which they originated. The advantage they received from the order was, that when the act expired, their rank having been ordinary and permanent, their names would be printed in the army lists, in their respective ranks, and they would have their honours and titles remaining. His lordship then pronounced an encomium on the German legion, and concluded with saying, that it would be well that the new parliament should have its opinion understood of the legality and propriety of continuing the present system of employing every means of carrying on an offensive warfare which offered itself in the present circumstances.

Mr. Ponsonby particularly objected to the last part of the noble lord's speech, and hoped that the house would not on the present, or any other occasion, express an opinion on a subject not connected with the motion that was before them. He concurred in the praises of the German corps, but adhered to the opinion that parliament ought to look with a constitutional jealousy to the employment of foreign soldiers, especially within this realm.

Lord Milton having alluded to the conferring of the command of a district in England on Baron Linsingen, a german; General Stewart asked why, when foreigners were intrusted with commands against the enemy, they should not be equally trusted in this country? But he was reminded by Mr. Canning, that while he viewed the subject with a military eye, it was the duty of the house to view it in a constitutional light also; and he referred to the case of king William and his Dutch troops, which parliament had obliged him to dismiss. In the further discussion, some censure was pointed against the present rage of Germanizing and Frenchifying our troops in their dress and equipments, and various bad consequences of this mode were pointed out.

The motion was then put, and negatived; but three others were agreed to, relative to returns of the foreign officers and soldiers employed in the British service.

On Dec. 17, a message was sent to both houses from the Prince Regent, recommending the granting a relief to the suffering subjects of his Majesty's good and great ally,

ally, the Emperor of Russia. It was ordered to be taken into consideration in both houses on the following day.

In the House of Lords, on the 18th, the Earl of Liverpool rose to move an address pledging the house to concur in the object of the message. He made an introductory speech, in which he stated the circumstances of the French invasion of Russia, and the system of defence adopted by the government of that country, an essential part of which was, the sacrifice of habitations and property, that the enemy might be deprived of the advantage of possessing them. Besides the destruction of the great capital of Moscow, which he represented as a voluntary act, on the part of the inhabitants, a number of towns and villages had shared the same fate, by which very great sufferings had been brought on the people; and as the purposes of the invasion had been, to strike a deadly blow at the resources of this country, our gratitude was engaged to contribute to their relief.

Lord Holland said, that he found himself placed in a very painful situation by the considerations on which this motion was urged; for whilst he must doubt whether this was a wise or politic grant, he felt, that when once proposed, it might be unwise and unsafe to reject it. He then stated some reasons why he thought that it would have little efficacy in producing the intended relief; yet he would not oppose it, principally because he would not have it imagined that

any member of that house could be insensible to the merits or the sufferings of the Russians. He further hoped that the proposal might be regarded as evidence of a complete co-operation and concert between the two governments, not merely for carrying on the war, but as to its objects, and the grounds on which a general peace might be established.

The address was then unanimously agreed to.

In the House of Commons, the House having resolved itself into a committee of supply, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on rising to move the grant, said, that had it not been from some intimations of dissent given yesterday, he should not have thought it necessary to preface his motion with many observations. It had been suggested that the message had taken the House by surprise. The surprise was, as much upon government, as upon the house: it arose from the gratifying intelligence, that the enemy had been driven beyond the bounds of the ancient Russian empire; and it was thought better that parliament should not delay a relief to the people who had made such sacrifices to the common cause, lest it should be anticipated by the generous contributions of individuals. Another consideration was, that a great subscription had been entered into at Petersburg, and committees had been appointed in Russia, to inquire into the losses of individuals, and to apportion the relief to be distributed. As to the sum which ought to be granted,

granted, there would probably be a difference of opinion, but, considering the occasion, it obviously would be improper that it should be a scanty or penurious grant. He concluded with moving "that a sum not exceeding 200,000*l.* should be granted to his Majesty, to be applied towards the relief of the sufferers in Russia."

Mr. Ponsonby said, he should vote for the grant, but not for the reasons assigned by the last speaker. It would not afford either speedy or effectual relief to the sufferers; but he looked upon it in the light of a gift to the Emperor of Russia, and as a mark of gratitude for the extraordinary efforts made by that country in resisting the power of France, and opposing the continental system which was attempted to be forced upon it.

Mr. Bathurst defended the words "speedy and effectual" applied to the grant, as being used relatively, and in conjunction with other measures of relief.

Mr. Whitbread said, that after fully exercising his judgment upon the question, he could not suffer the vote to pass unanimously. He thought the proposed grant would prove ineffectual, and that it was inconsistent with the sentiments of justice which the house was bound to entertain for the distresses of their own countrymen. The sum was too paltry to be of any real use; and it was the duty of the Russian government to protect its people, and to alleviate their wretchedness, oc-

casioned by an act unparalleled in the history of the world—the conflagration of Moscow. The sum appeared to be in reality a contribution to carry on the war, and no other than a paltry and contemptible subsidy.

Lord Castlereagh strongly disclaimed the appellation given to the grant by the last speaker, and said, that by the vote now proposed, we were subsidizing the sensibilities and generous feelings of all the world.

Sir Francis Burdett could not consent to give away money which, whilst it could not be effectual to relieve the calamities of Russia, would add to the burdens already so severely felt by the community at home. He thought it was hard that the people of this country should be called upon to support the emigrants of all nations; and yet when relief was requested for our starving manufacturers, the answer was, that in times like this, economy must be attended to, and it was impossible for the house to grant relief to an extent that would be of any avail.

Mr. Wilberforce did not doubt that the sum asked for would be of material benefit to the Russians, as similar grants had been in other cases. It would shew at least the sympathetic feelings of the house for the distresses of the Russian people; and he could not conceive why nations should not be generous, as well as individuals.

The resolution was then agreed to.

Nothing

Nothing further of importance occurred in Parliament before its adjournment for the Christmas recess.

It should be recorded, that in

addition to the parliamentary aid granted to Russia, considerable private subscriptions were entered into for the relief of the sufferers in that country.

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CHRONICLE.

JANUARY.

EXTRACT from the Danish newspaper of the 31st of December, 1811 :—

“ We have received accounts that the English ship *St. George*, 98 guns, commanded by admiral Reynolds, and the *Defence* of 74, capt. David Atkins, were driven ashore on the morning of the 24th instant, near Cape Ryssenstein, in the lordship of Rinkiobing. The crew of the former is said to have consisted of 350 men, and of the latter, of 550 men, not including the officers. Half an hour after the *Defence* had touched the ground, the whole went to pieces, and all the crew (excepting five seamen and one marine, who saved themselves by holding pieces of timber) were drowned. Capt. Atkins reached the shore, dead. The day after, in the afternoon, there were seen from the land some part of the cabin and poop of the *St. George*, upon which were standing many men. Part of the mast was cut away, and some men endeavoured to escape on it; but it is conjectured, that few have been saved, since the waves and the current, with the wind coming from the N.N.W. would sweep them off before they reached the land. Some, likewise, attempted to save themselves on a

raft, but are said to have perished; and when the accounts came away from Lemvig, intelligence had reached that place, that the *St. George* had totally gone down, and that only twelve men of the crew had been saved. The ship was upwards of 300 fathoms from the land.”

Lemvig, Jan. 6.—There were no more than eleven men saved of the crew of the *St. George*, as the twelfth died before he could be brought into a house. These seamen state, that the ship, previous to the loss of her masts, had likewise had her rudder broken by striking on the Redsand; and the one which was made on board to replace it, was too weak to steer and govern the ship, in a gale of wind in the North Sea, and which might, probably, cause the ship's stopping.

The *Defence* first took the ground; and on signal being given by her of the accident, the *St. George* immediately let go her anchor, but in bringing up with the anchor she took the ground abaft, so that her forepart, which had deeper water, and was confined down by the cable, was, in a short time, under water. To save them by boats and craft from the shore was impossible. Such as were hoisted out were immediately driven from the ship, with the exception of one single

boat, in which about 20 men attempted to save themselves, but it upset alongside the ship, and they were all drowned. On the afternoon of Christmas-day, when the last of the eleven men left the ship, on a small piece of plank, admiral Reynolds and captain Guion, the commander of the ship, were lying dead aside each other, upon the quarter-deck, as were also about 508 men of the crew, who had died through fatigue and cold, and from the sea breaking over them; only about fifty men remaining still alive, whose cries were heard until it became dark, when, it is to be hoped, that an end was put to their misery. Two days afterwards, when the gale was abated, and the wind, being easterly, was off the shore, a Danish boat, with two of the English sailors, went on board to bring away the corpses of the admiral, the captain, and several other persons; but they found the deck was washed away by the sea, with all the bodies lying on it. It is supposed the ship must now be broken right athwart, although both ends of her are still perceptible, and that it must be the ammunition lying in the bottom, which holds her together. Among the ship's crew, which is said to have been no more than 750, about 40 were reckoned in the class of officers; and of these, exclusive of the admiral and captain, ten were lieutenants, one secretary, one captain, and three lieutenants of marines. The secretary, who was a married man, was half dead when he came on shore, and expired immediately after. A quantity of gold coins found upon his person, such as whole and half guineas, Dutch ducats, &c. and

likewise some English Bank-notes, is, so far as yet known, all the money saved. According to the report given by the survivors, the admiral must have been a most gallant man. He would not quit his ship, but die on board her. He was a widower, and has left two daughters behind him, and a son, who is a captain.

A great number of dead bodies have driven on shore between Hausbye and Nessum, all of which were interred with military honours. Forty-seven barrels of gunpowder have been saved out of the Defence.

Narrative, by a Person on board the Grasshopper, of the circumstances attending the loss of that Vessel and the Hero.—On Wednesday the 18th of December, 1811, we sailed from Wingo Sound, in company with his majesty's ships Hero, Egeria, and Prince William armed ship, with a convoy of 120 sail or upwards. The Egeria and Prince William, with the greatest part of the convoy, separated from us in the tremendous weather we had shortly after leaving the Sleeve; and on the 23rd instant, we found ourselves in company with the Hero, and about eighteen sail, mostly government transports. At half-past eleven on that day, captain Newman made signal to come within hail; when he told us, as he conceived we were near about the Silver Pitts, he should steer S. W. after noon, which was accordingly done; and at the close of the day, we steering that course, running at the rate of nine knots per hour, at about ten o'clock, the night-signal was made to alter course to port two points, which was repeated by us. At this time
only

only four of the convey were in sight, and they were shortly lost sight of in the heavy squall of snow and sleet. At half past three the hands were turned up, the ship being in broken water: we found we were on a sand bank, the pilots imagining it to be Smith's Knoll. The captain instantly ordered the brig to be steered S. SE. thinking to get out to sea; but she continued striking so hard for a length of time, that we had almost given her up for lost, when suddenly, and very fortunately, we fell into three fathoms water, upon which the captain caused an anchor to be let go, when we perceived the Hero again (as we then thought) also at an anchor, though she fired several guns, and burnt blue lights: but, alas! when the day broke, we had the mortification of witnessing a most horrible scene,—the Hero was totally dismasted, and on her larboard beam-ends, with her head to the N. E. about a mile from us, upon the Haeck's Sand, as we then found we were inside of it, off the Texel Island: the ship's company were all crowded together on the poop and forecastle. As soon as day-light had well appeared, she hoisted a flag of truce and fired a gun, which we repeated, and very shortly after saw a lugger, two brigs, and several small vessels, plying out of the Texel to our assistance; but owing to the flood-tide having made, and the wind blowing a perfect gale at N. NW. the lugger was only able to come within two or three miles of us by two o'clock in the afternoon. In the mean time we hoisted out our boats, and made an attempt to get near the Hero, but the surf was so high, that it was all ineffectual,

and we were under the cruel necessity of seeing so many of our brave countrymen perishing, without being able to render them any assistance. The Grasshopper at the same time was constantly striking very hard, though every thing had been thrown overboard to lighten her, except the guns, upon which it was feared she would have bilged. The master was then sent to sound in every direction, for a passage to make our escape by, (though I have since found out that an escape was totally impossible); but quarter less three, and two fathoms and a half, were the only soundings he could meet with. The captain, therefore, with the opinion of the officers, agreed, that we had no chance of saving ourselves, but by surrendering to the enemy, who were at this time, as I have before mentioned, coming to our assistance, and that of the Hero, from whose wreck, I am sorry to say, not one soul has been saved. I observed, likewise, about five miles to the northward of us, a vessel on shore, with her foremast standing, and another some distance from her, both of which I took to be the transports that were under our convoy. The commanding officer here has since informed us, that the telegraph has reported that eight or ten vessels were wrecked upon the coast to the northward, on the 23rd instant, and had shared the fate of the poor Hero. A transport, called the Archimedes, beat over the Haecks as well as ourselves, with the loss of her rudder; but has since been wrecked, though the crew are saved, and now prisoners of war, as well as we. At close of day, finding the weather threatening to

be worse, and the brig striking so repeatedly, we cut the cable and ran for the port in view: when we approached the lugger, which was by this time anchored, she sent a pilot to us, who took us into the Texel, where we surrendered to the Dutch squadron, under the command of admiral de Winter, who, I must in justice say, has behaved to us in the most humane and attentive manner. They also used every means in their power to save the crew of the unfortunate *Hero*; but the badness of the weather rendered it totally impossible. I now must conclude my narrative with the most heartfelt regret, at having to announce to the public and the friends of the poor sufferers, their severe loss.

P. S. We lost but one man, Mr. King, the pilot, who was killed by a capstern bar, which flew out as we were heaving in cable to put service in the hawse.

America.—Richmond, Dec. 27.

—Last night the play house in this city was crowded with an unusual audience: there could not have been less than six hundred persons in the house. Just before the conclusion of the play, the scenery caught fire, and in a few minutes the whole building was wrapt in flames. It is already ascertained that sixty-one persons were devoured by that terrific element. We are informed that the scenery took fire in the back part of the house, by the raising of a chandelier;—that the boy, who was ordered by one of the players to raise it, stated, that if he did so, the scenery would take fire, when he was commanded in a peremptory manner to hoist it. The boy

obeyed, and the fire was instantly communicated to the scenery. He gave the alarm in the rear of the stage, and requested some of the attendants to cut the cords by which the combustible materials were suspended. The person whose duty it was to perform this business became panic struck, and sought his own safety. This unfortunately happened at a time when one of the performers was playing near the orchestra, and the greatest part of the stage was obscured from the audience by a curtain. The fire falling from the scenery upon the performer, was the first notice which the people had of their danger. Even then many supposed it to be a part of the play, and were, for a little time, restrained from flight by a cry from the stage that there was no danger.

There was but one door for the greatest part of the audience to pass. Men, women, and children were pressing upon each other, while the flames were seizing upon those behind; who, urged by the flames, pushed those out who were nearest the windows; and people of every description began to fall, one upon another, some with their clothes on fire, some half roasted.

All of those who were in the pit escaped, and had cleared themselves from the house before those who were in the boxes could get down, and the door was for some time empty. Those from above were pushing each other down the steps, when the hindermost might have got out by leaping into the pit. In addition to the list now given, it is believed that at least 60 others perished, whose names are not yet ascertained.

[Here

[Here follow the names of 62 persons, among whom were the governor of the province and his lady.]

Jan. 1.—Interment of John Williams.—On Munday, Dec. 30, at midnight, the body of this wretch was removed from the House of Correction, Cold Bath-fields, to the watch-house, near Ratcliff-highway; and yesterday morning, at about ten o'clock, he was placed on a platform, erected six feet above a very high cart, drawn by one horse. The platform was composed of rough deals battened together, raised considerably at the head, which elevated the corpse. A board was fixed across the lower end, standing up about six inches, to prevent the body from slipping off. On this platform the body was laid; it had on a clean white shirt, very neatly frilled, quite open at the neck, and without a neck-handkerchief or hat, but the hair neatly combed, and the face clean washed. The countenance looked healthful and ruddy, but the hands and the lower part of the arms were of a deep purple, nearly black. The whole of the arms were exposed, the shirt being tucked quite up. The lower part of the body was covered with a pair of clean blue trowsers, and brown worsted stockings, without shoes. The feet were towards the horse; on the right leg was affixed the iron Williams had on when he was committed to prison. The fatal mall was placed upright by the left side of his head, and the ripping-chisel or crow-bar, about three feet long, on the other side. About ten o'clock the procession, attended by the head constable, and headboroughs of the district;

and about 250 or 300 constables and extra constables, most of them with drawn cutlasses, began to move, and continued at a very slow pace until they came opposite the house of the unfortunate Marr, in Ratcliff-highway, where they stopped for about a quarter of an hour. By the shaking of the cart the head of Williams had got turned to one side, and looked from the house where the murder was committed; but before the cart left the place, a person ascended the platform, and placed the face of the corpse directly opposite the scene of atrocity. The procession went down Old Gravel-lane, along Wapping High-street, entered New Gravel-lane by Wapping wall, and continued slowly to approach the spot where the second murder was perpetrated; on reaching which, it stood for another quarter of an hour, and then proceeded, again entering Ratcliff-highway, and passing along it until it came to Cannon-street, where it turned up; and on reaching the top where the New-road crosses, and the Cannon-street road begins, a large hole being prepared, the cart stopped. After a pause of about ten minutes, the body was thrown into its infamous grave, amidst the acclamations of thousands of spectators. The stake which the law requires to be driven through the corpse had been placed in the procession, under the head of Williams, by way of pillow; and after he was consigned to the earth, it was handed down from the platform, and with the mall was driven through the body. The grave was then filled with quick lime, and the spectators very quietly dispersed. During the whole

whole procession all ranks of persons who were present conducted themselves with a solemnity rarely witnessed in the east part of the town; and until the body was lowering into the earth, hardly a whisper was to be heard in the street. Not a single accident happened. Williams is buried close to the turnpike-gate in the Cannon-street road.

2. The infant son of Mrs. Dellow of St. Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, who was stolen on the 18th of November, has at length been recovered.

The extensive circulation of hand and posting-bills, minutely describing the child, and offering a reward of one hundred guineas for his recovery, caused great but ineffectual vigilance in the country, until the latter end of last week, when a woman at Gosport observed a neighbour of her's in possession of a boy, bearing the marks described, and answering to the age of three years old. She immediately thought it was Thomas Dellow, who had been so long missing: the more so, as she had reason to believe that the pretended mother had never borne a child. She communicated her suspicions to the nearest magistrate, who sent for Mrs. Magnes, the pretended mother. The moment she was interrogated on the subject, she confessed the whole affair, and her motive for the robbery.

Magnes, her husband, who was a gunner on board one of his majesty's ships, and had saved a considerable sum of money for a man in his station of life, was extremely partial to children, and had often expressed his most anxious wish to have a little darling as he used to

term it. His wife, not less anxious to gratify him in this respect, wrote to him while at sea, that she was in the family-way. The gunner, highly delighted that he had obtained his desired object, sent home the earnings of many a cruise, amounting to 300*l.*, with a particular charge that the infant should be well rigged, and want for nothing; if a boy, so much the better.

The next letter from his hopeful wife announced the happy tidings that his first-born was a son, and that she would name him Richard, after his father. The husband expressed his joy at the news, and counted the tedious hours until he should be permitted to come home to his wife and child.

At home he at length arrived, but at an unfortunate time, when the dear Richard was out at nurse, at a considerable distance; change of air being necessary to the easy cutting of his teeth. Magnes' time being short, he left his home with a heavy heart, without being able to see his offspring; but he was assured, that on his next trip to Gosport he should have the felicity he had so often pined for, of clasping his darling to his bosom. It was not until November last that he was at liberty to revisit home, when he had again the mortification to find that his son, whom he expected to see a fine boy of three years old, had not yet cut his teeth, or that he was from home on some other pretence. Magnes, however, was not to be pacified thus: he would go and see his son, or his son should come to him. Mrs. Magnes, finding him determined, thought the latter much the best way; and accordingly set off to fetch the boy. The metropolis occurred

curred to her as the market best calculated to afford her a choice of children. She visited the west end of the town, but saw nothing there to correspond with her husband's views of a fine boy; the children appearing pale, wan and emaciated. She then turned her attention to the east, and passing down St. Martin's-lane, she was struck with the rosy little citizen, Tommy Dellow, and at once determined to make him her prize. He was playing with his sister at the green-grocer's shop-door, into which Mrs. Magnes went, with the double view of purchasing some apples, and carrying off the boy. Luckily, as she had made her purchase, a gentlewoman came into the shop to buy potatoes, and so engaged the mistress, that she forgot the children under her charge. Meanwhile, Mrs. Magnes lost no time. She made much of the sister, caressed the boy, and gave him an apple. The children being pleased with her attention, she asked the little girl to show her to a pastry-cook's shop to buy some cakes, whither she took both the girl and the boy. She got clear off with the latter, and left the girl behind. The same night she left town for Gosport with the boy, having rigged him out according to the taste of her husband, with a new dress, and a black hat and feather. Mrs. Magnes, in order that she might speak to the name of her boy with a safer conscience, stopped at Kingston, and had him christened, "Richard Magnes," by which name he was introduced to his fond father on the following evening at Gosport. Magnes, supposing all his wishes realised, was made truly happy.

It is no exaggeration to say, that poor Magnes felt a parental affection for the boy; and that when the imposition was discovered before the magistrate, he was grieved to the heart at being obliged to part with him under all the circumstances of the transaction. The magistrate at Gosport immediately acquainted Mr. and Mrs. Dellow with the discovery; and stated to them, that their child was safe, and ready to be delivered to its parents. On Monday the father set off for Gosport, and the next day received his lost child. If he could feel any diminution of his joy, it was on account of Magnes, who parted with little Dellow with a sorrowful heart, and excited the commiseration of all who witnessed the scene. As for Mrs. Magnes, she was lodged in the House of Correction at Gosport, for a day or two, and is expected by the coach this morning, to undergo an examination at the Mansion-house. Mr. Dellow and his boy arrived in town yesterday morning.

2. One of the Glasgow coaches was overturned last October, in consequence of running a race with a post-chaise on the road from Edinburgh, whereby a Mr. Brown was killed, and his wife so bruised as to be in imminent danger. A verdict has since been found, in consequence of an action brought in the Court of Sessions, against the proprietors of both the coach and chaise. Lord Meadowbank, ordinary, has found the defendants liable to the following damages:—

To Mrs. Brown, in compensation of damages suffered by her person - - -	£. 300
To her for the loss of her husband - - - - -	200
And to each of the children, eight in number, 130% each - - - - -	1040
	—
	1540

With full expense of process.

2. Six French prisoners, who lately escaped from the castle of Edinburgh, have been re-taken to their old place of confinement. On Friday last, information was given to the commandant of Linlithgow Local Militia, that a number of foreigners had been seen skulking among lord Hopetoun's plantations: a party was immediately sent out, which descried them at some distance in the fields. On seeing the party, they all separated, taking different directions; six of them, however, were taken, after considerable fatigue, four of them hid among the whins, and two of them in the hollow of a stack in a barn-yard. On their escape, they had made for the sea, near Cramond, where, finding a boat, they sailed up the Firth, till opposite Hopetoun-house, where they landed, intending to pursue their journey to Port-Glasgow by land. They had subsisted for three days on raw turnips. On being taken, they were carried to Linlithgow gaol, fed and clothed, and conducted to Edinburgh on Saturday last.

3. An unfortunate accident occurred at Portsmouth theatre on Tuesday. A lad, 14 years of age, son of a widow, a slop-seller, went with some companions to the gallery. On their gaining the top of the stairs, which opened on the

back of the gallery, he rushed directly down to the front, exclaiming, he would either get a front seat, or go into the pit. There was no iron-railing above the resting-place to prevent his falling over, and he was precipitated down a height of thirty feet. Surgical assistance was immediately procured, and the theatre closed. The manager had him conveyed to his private dressing-room, where he lingered till eight o'clock the next morning, and died.

3. In consequence of a recent decision in the court of Teinds (or Tithes), in Edinburgh, none of the established clergy of Scotland will have a smaller stipend than 150% sterling, and 8% 6s. 8d. for communion elements, besides a manse and glebe in the country parishes.

We have to record one of the most daring robberies that was ever committed, as well as the greatest perseverance and exertions by police officers, to detect and apprehend robbers. Reid, belonging to Perry's party of the patrol, received information, that the house, No. 4, in Bury-street, St. James's, kept by Mrs. Martin, was marked to be robbed by a gang of thieves, who had got to the knowledge that she in general went out every evening, principally to the play, through the thoughtless and imprudent conduct of her female servant, who had admitted one of them, named Clayton, to visit her as a sweetheart; having got acquainted with her under a false representation that he was a trunk-maker, living in Oxford-street. Monday se'night was the time fixed on for the perpetration of the robbery. Perry, Reid, Limberick, and others, applied to a neigh-

neighbour residing opposite to Mrs. Martin's house, to accommodate them with a room to watch the proceedings of the night. They went there about half past seven o'clock, and in about three quarters of an hour after, three or four men and two women came and walked up and down in the front of Mrs. Martin's house; and after some time, one of the men knocked at Mrs. Martin's door. The servant girl answered it; the man who knocked at the door proved to be Clayton, who pretended to be the girl's sweetheart; they crossed over the way talking together, he kissing and squeezing her. Clayton expected to be admitted that night, but the girl was not able to fulfil her promise, owing to her mistress being unwell, and consequently not going out.

On the following Tuesday night, about eight, or half past eight o'clock, the officers being at their usual place to watch, observed Clayton knock at Mrs. Martin's door. The servant came to the door; they walked away together, and went to a liquor shop and had some gin. When they were separating, he professed such strong love for her, that he was nearly broken hearted at parting with her, and kissed her at least a dozen times.—On Wednesday night, about the same time, Clayton and two other men appeared before Mrs. Martin's house. They threw stones against the kitchen window, which not answering the purpose of bringing out the girl, they threw some half-pence, which had the desired effect. She came out, and went and had some liquor with them. Clayton kissed and courted the girl for some time in the street.

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During all these visits, Clayton wished very much to go into the house; but the girl told him she dared not, her mistress being still ill, and remaining confined in the house.—On Thursday night Clayton attended alone; but his companions were supposed to be at an adjoining house. The girl came out, and they went and drank together.—On Friday night Clayton was accompanied by two or three more men; they walked up and down in the front of the house, while Clayton knocked at the door. The girl answered it, and came out to him, and they talked together for some time; the whole gang were very eager to get into the house that night. On Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday nights, Clayton pursued similar conduct, going with the girl her errands, drinking together, &c. On Tuesday night, the girl told Clayton that her mistress was so much recovered, that she expected she would be well enough to go the following night to the play.

On Wednesday night, about eight o'clock, Mrs. Martin, accompanied by a male and female friend, went in a coach to the theatre. In a few minutes after, the servant girl came out, and returned shortly after with Clayton, arm in arm together. They talked together several minutes at the door, and then went in together. In about a quarter of an hour after, Clayton came out, and returned in about five minutes, accompanied by another man. Clayton knocked at the door, and the girl opened it. She appeared to refuse letting the other man in; but Clayton forced open the door, and the other man rushed in. The officers, who had been

been upon the close watch every night, then went over to the house, and heard all three talking very loud in the kitchen. From the noise, and what they saw through a key-hole, they ascertained that the two men were dragging the girl up stairs against her will, and she was exclaiming, "Lord have mercy upon me, what shall I do!" One of the men told her, if she made such a noise he would blow her brains out, and presented a pistol to her head, and kept it there. They forced her up stairs, she continuing the above exclamations in defiance of their threat; the officers heard doors being broke open, &c. and in a few minutes after the other man, whose name is Jenkins, came down stairs, and returned with the kitchen poker; they then heard other doors break open, but not hearing the noise of the girl continued, the officers were afraid she was being murdered, and were proceeding to break open the street-door with an iron crow, which the girl hearing, exclaimed it was her mistress, gave a sudden spring, released herself from them, ran down stairs, and the robbers after her: they got into the passage just as the officers had broke open the door, and were also in the passage. Clayton and Jenkins appeared as if nothing had happened, and wanted to get out. Perry and Reid seized them: the villains made a most desperate resistance, which they were enabled to do, being very tall, stout, powerful men; the officers, however, soon secured them. On searching Clayton, a large clasp-knife and a bad dollar were found. On Jenkins were found a pistol, two bad dol-

lars, &c. On examining the house, the officers discovered that a large quantity of property had been packed up ready to be carried off. Several rooms and closets were broke open; and they were in the act of breaking open a chest when they were disturbed.

A duel took place last month at Bourdeaux, between two merchants. On the first fire, one of the parties fell, and the seconds immediately approached, supposing that he was mortally wounded; after a close inspection they found he had not sustained any injury, his antagonist's ball having glanced aside, and lodged in the trunk of a tree; but he was nevertheless dead; having, it is conjectured, anticipated by his terrors that fate which he might otherwise have escaped. His antagonist was wounded in the right arm.

According to the tables published in the almanack of the French Board of Longitude, the population of the French empire amounts to 43,937,144 souls. Of this number, it is supposed that 28 millions speak the French language, 6,453,000 the Italian, 4,063,000 the Dutch or Flemish, 967,000 the Breton, and 108,000 the Basque. The population of the states connected with the system of France, in which number are included the kingdom of Italy, Switzerland, Spain, the Confederation of the Rhine, &c. is estimated at 38,141,541 souls.

The largest emerald which has ever been seen has lately been imported from the East Indies; it was one of the most valuable stones of Tippu Saib's crown. It is of an extraordinary size, and its weight

is supposed to exceed considerably 506 grains.

4. The following is given as a correct account of the late discovery of frauds in the naval department:—

A man in Spitalfields being on some occasion examined by the magistrates at Union-street, stated certain circumstances which appeared to justify a suspicion that there existed a confederacy for defrauding poor seamen, under pretence of procuring their discharges, and the public, by obtaining Greenwich pensions for persons who were not entitled to them. Though the information was not very precise, and was in some particulars rather suspicious, the magistrate thought it his duty to transmit it to the secretary of the Admiralty, who, on an accurate examination of the man, thought that his account was probably correct. Measures were therefore concerted for detecting the offenders; and at last, proof was obtained of Gawler, late a clerk in the Navy Office, having given a seamen a false discharge, and of his having certain public papers and documents in his house. An examination was then had at the Admiralty, before Mr. Croker, the comptroller of the navy, and Mr. Graham; and warrants were issued against the person of Gawler, and for the seizure of his papers. Gawler himself absconded; but his papers were taken; and, on examination, disclosed a series of extensive frauds, and implicated another clerk in the Navy Office, of the name of Needham, who, with four or five inferior agents, is now in custody, and will, it is to be expected, be brought to justice. The

investigation is, however, so extremely intricate, and the papers so voluminous, that it is not possible to speak with certainty as to the extent of the frauds; but we hear that it is already ascertained, that on Greenwich Hospital alone they amount to about 1,000*l.* a year; and we do not doubt, from the activity and industry which are exerted in the investigation, that the whole system of fraud will be detected, that the offences already committed will be exposed and punished, and that measures will be taken to prevent, as far as possible, occurrences of similar impositions on individuals and the public.

Nottingham, Jan. 4.—On Friday night last two frames were broken in Pleasant-row, in this town. One more, we understand, has since been broken in Milk-street, and three others in other parts of the town. In many villages in this county, and on the borders of Derbyshire, the terror and alarm of the inhabitants is such, occasioned by the late nocturnal attacks on the property of peaceable individuals, that they are afraid to go to bed at nights; and it has been deemed necessary to keep watch alternately, for the protection of their property.

Nottingham, Jan. 5.—The extraordinary measures resorted to by the corporate body of this town, seem to have had little other effect than that of making the frame-breakers more cautious, and, if possible, more systematic in their operation; for they wait the opportunity of the occasional absence of the watch, enter a house, break a frame or frames with wondrous expedition, and, before alarm can
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be given without manifest danger to the person who might give it, the signal-gun is fired by the commander for immediate dispersion. From only three frames being broken in this town, and its immediate vicinity, during the early part of last week, some people flattered themselves that the mischief was subsiding; this opinion, however, has proved fatally incorrect, for nine frames were broken on Friday evening at Basford, two miles hence; and this morning, about six o'clock, two lace-frames were broken in one of the most populous neighbourhoods in this town. When the depredators had done the mischief, they discharged four pieces, in open defiance of the civil authorities, and quietly dispersed.

On the 5th inst. early in the morning, as a boy was passing on the edge of the river at Waterford, in Ireland, he found a dead female body in the mud. He communicated the circumstance to the inhabitants of a house near the place. They returned with him, and found a female corpse, mangled in such a manner as would be horrible to describe. On inquiry the strongest proofs appeared that the ill-fated being had been murdered at the termination of the wall leading to the city; that the author of her death had thrown the body over the wall; that he then dragged it as far into the river as seemed to be consistent with his own safety, and there left it, in the hope of its being carried away with the stream. Fresh blood in considerable quantities was visible on the wall, on the adjoining gate, and in some places between them and the river; whilst the marks of

footsteps, and the impression of the body were discernible through the whole space from the road to the spot where it was abandoned. A stone of several pounds weight, and nearly covered with blood, was found beside the body, with which it was evident some of the wounds on the head had been inflicted. There were other wounds on the head that bore the appearance of having been given by a sharp instrument. The dress indicated the wearer to have been in a humble station, but it did not resemble that of the peasantry in that part of Ireland.

6. The aggregate meeting of the county and city of Cork was held in that city. It was fully attended by Protestants as well as Catholics. After a long discussion, it was resolved unanimously, that a petition should be presented to both Houses of Parliament, at the time when a committee, to be appointed for that purpose, shall think most conducive to its success. It was also agreed to address the Prince Regent, at such time as the committee shall think proper.

10. Wednesday morning, about two o'clock, the house of Mr. Cumming, at Christleton, near Chester, was attempted to be broken into by two men and a woman, but were providentially prevented by the courage of an old lady, who snatched up a sabre, and immediately attacked the villain who was entering the window, by cutting his hand in such a determined manner, as to cause him to let go his hold, and fall to the ground, leaving several marks of blood behind him. It is supposed the wounds may lead to a discovery of these offenders. They were seen after

after the attempt by the watchman, coming through Boughton.

Dublin, Jan. 7.—The following is given as a correct statement of the facts relative to the discovery of a treasonable association in Ireland:—

“About eight days ago, a meeting was held of the trustees of the Charity School belonging to the Catholic Chapel in Church street. The school-master neglected to attend at the usual hour, and arrived in a state of intoxication as the trustees were about to disperse; he was severely reprimanded for his absence, and required to state the reason of it. He endeavoured to excuse himself, saying, that he had been detained by important business; but, as his duty required that all his time should be devoted to the school, the trustees refused to admit of any such excuse; and then he stated broadly, that he had been engaged in the business of the new association, to one division of which he said he was secretary. The nature of this association was inquired of him, and he gave the following account:—

“That it was an association instituted for the purpose of separating Ireland from England, by force of arms—that it had also for one of its objects the extirpation of heresy—that, however, the most active person he knew of in it was a Mr. Fisher, a Protestant, who assured him, and the other persons he engaged in the plan, that it had the sanction of the Catholic Committee, and Mr. Hay was their private secretary—that he had been supplied with a blunderbuss, and many others were armed, as it was easy to procure arms out of the

stores at the Castle!—and that an attack was shortly to be made in Dublin, as they were assured that the garrison was at present very weak.’

“Such was the substance of the statement made by this man. The trustees adjourned to the next day, and then called him before them. Being sober, he wished to conceal or retract the facts; but being closely pressed, he admitted that he had become a member of such an association, and repeated the account he had given the preceding evening, with this addition, that he believed the name of Fisher was not a real, but an assumed name. The trustees immediately dismissed him from his employment as school-master, and endeavoured to make him sensible of the crime he had committed, and of the evident falsehood of the representations that had been made to him.

“On Thursday, the 2nd, those facts were communicated, for the first time, at the rooms belonging to the Catholic Committee, in Capel-street, to Mr. Hay, in the presence of major Bryan. The gentleman who made the communication was not present at the examination of the schoolmaster; and it therefore became necessary to ascertain the facts from some person who was. This could not be done until Friday. On that day several members of the Catholic Committee met at D’Arcy’s, in Earl-street; and the facts being stated to them, they unanimously resolved to communicate the entire transaction to the attorney-general, in the presence either of Mr. Grattan, or of the knight of Kerry; a precaution which, circumstanced

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as the members of the Catholic Committee were, they thought prudent; and could not be improper.

“Neither of those distinguished gentlemen were in town on Friday; but expresses were sent to them, and also to lord Fingal, who was at Killeen Castle; and early on Saturday morning the three arrived in town.

“It was the opinion of those gentlemen, that they ought, in the first instance, to wait on the attorney-general, to inform him that lord Fingal, and some other Catholic gentlemen, had a communication to make to him, touching the existence of a treasonable conspiracy—that they were then ready to make it—and to know if the attorney-general was ready to receive them for that purpose. This course was accordingly adopted.

“Mr. Grattan and Mr. Fitzgerald accordingly waited on the attorney-general on Saturday last, and stated the object of their visit. Mr. Attorney-general was not then ready to receive the communication. We understand that he asked if there were any informations on oath; and recommended to lord Fingal and the other gentleman to go before a police magistrate, and give their information to him—said, that the usual way was to go before a magistrate—and did not seem to think it at all necessary to see the Catholic gentlemen himself.

“We understand that the attorney-general was strongly pressed to receive the communication, and to submit it to the Irish government: that he asked, whether the gentlemen meant to come to him as a committee? to which the

knight of Kerry replied, ‘No, sir, they will wait on you merely as individuals.’

“At length the attorney-general appointed the hour of twelve on Monday, the 6th, at Mr. Pole’s office, in the Castle, for receiving the communication. He said he wanted to go to his country seat, and supposed there could be no danger in the mean time.

“The earl of Fingal, major Bryan, and Mr. O’Connel, were appointed to go to Mr. Pole’s office, at that hour. They did so accordingly, and were accompanied by Mr. O’Gorman. We understand that they gave a brief statement of the confession made by the school-master—gave in his name, and the names and residences of some of the trustees who were witnesses to that confession; and also some printed papers belonging to the association. They were received by the attorney-general and Mr. Pole with ceremonious politeness, and having made their communication, withdrew, leaving it to the government to act as they should think fit.

9. This morning, an instance of youthful rashness occurred in the inland department of the Post-office, for which no plausible reason could be assigned.

One of the messengers hearing the report of a pistol in the inland office, ran immediately to the place from whence the noise proceeded, and saw a youth, named Kelner, about 17 years of age, sitting on a chair, by the fire-side, leaning his head upon his hand, and holding a pocket-handkerchief to his face. The messenger conceiving the pistol might be fired for idle sport,
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immediately retired. Shortly afterwards one of the clerks entered the office, and observing the young man in the same position, asked him what was the matter? He made no answer: this excited a good deal of surprise; and upon coming close to him, he observed blood dripping from his clothes on the floor, very profusely. He instantly went in search of a surgeon. It being then only six in the morning, he with difficulty procured medical assistance; but upon his return to the office he missed young Kelner. It appears, that after the young man had gone in search of a surgeon, he went away, and nothing has since been heard of him. The dripping of his blood was traced into Lombard-street, but there every clue for discovering whither he had fled failed. Inquiries were made for him at the Virginia coffee-house, where he had lodged, but there he had not arrived. He had engaged lodgings in Dove-court, Lombard-street, of which he was to have taken possession last night, but they had not heard of him there.

Some days since he had been seen playing in the office with a new pair of pistols, the locks and barrels of which he was curious in the inspection.

The body of this poor youth was afterwards found in the Thames.

On Sunday evening, Jan. 12, the shop of Mr. Pryor, a respectable boot-maker, residing at No. 71, High-street, Borough, Southwark, was entered by two desperate villains, though by what means is not yet discovered, but certainly with an intent to rob the premises. While employed in packing up several pair of boots in

a large skin of leather which they found in the shop, the servant went down stairs to empty a vessel in the cellar: on her way thither, though she passed through the shop, she did not observe any person; but on her return she perceived two men, one of them packing up boots, and the other coming as from the back part of the premises, to whom she said, "What! are you going to take boots away to-night? it is Sunday!" thinking they were some of her master's journeymen. At this instant one of the villains made up to her, and threatened her, that if she uttered a word he would instantly murder her. On looking round, she discovered the other to have a black crape over his face, which so alarmed her, that she screamed out murder! murder! several times, and ran towards the shop door, which was then open, and which in her fright she shut, and thereby inclosed herself with these monsters. She continued to scream, though one of them had levelled a blow at her head which knocked her down. On her rising, and not ceasing to call out murder! thieves! &c. one of the wretches seized her by her hair, and with a sharp instrument cut her throat right across the wind-pipe. She then fell to the ground, and remembered no farther of what passed.

The screams of the girl had by this time alarmed the family up stairs, which consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Pryor, and three young men, lodgers. Mrs. Pryor then went down stairs, and on her reaching the bottom, actually fell over her wounded servant, as she lay senseless on the floor. The terror of Mrs. Pryor may be better conceived than

than described. Notwithstanding her fright, however, she got up stairs; but it was not a matter easy to determine in the minds of those above, who should venture down to attack, what they supposed a banditti of murderers. Mr. Pryor and his lodgers then went down, and found the servant as we have before described, the shop door being wide open, and, we are sorry to say, that the perpetrators of this horrid crime escaped, leaving behind them the skin of leather, tied up, full of new boots and shoes. Medical aid was instantly sent for, and the wound on the neck was pronounced not mortal. What adds to the daring atrocity of this act is, that it was committed so early as between eight and nine o'clock; and the premises of Mr. Pryor are as public as any situation can be, being situated in the High-street of Southwark, not many yards from the Town-hall, which is as great a thoroughfare as the Strand or Fleet-street.

Nottingham, Jan. 13.—The latest accounts which we have received represent the hopes which were entertained of seeing a speedy end to the outrages in that neighbourhood as being again disappointed. Last week frame-breaking and burning increased, but only one burglary had been heard of. The gang in Derbyshire, it was believed, was nearly broken up. On the 2nd instant, an idle wretch, who had excited suspicion by a sudden transition from rags and poverty to well dressed plenty, was arrested at Heanor, in that county: and we understand, from information he has given, that two other desperadoes were taken at a public-house in Loscoe, last Wednesday,

and conveyed in chains to Derby gaol; one of whom, a celebrated pedestrian, and well known as a deserter, had long been the terror of the neighbourhood for miles around. A stack, containing twenty tons of valuable hay, was set fire to at Mansfield on Sunday evening; the flames of which drew a part of a congregation from the methodist chapel in that place, during divine service. On Wednesday evening, a large wooden hovel, containing a quantity of straw, the property of Mrs. Daykin, of Bagthorpe, was set fire to at Basford, the whole of which was consumed. The frame-breaking at Basford, on Friday night, had created considerable sensation. An elderly woman, the wife of a person who held seven of these frames, has sworn to several persons as being concerned in the outrage (two of whom are committed), on which account, such was the indignation excited against her among some of the stocking-makers of Basford, that it was judged expedient to remove the family with their furniture, escorted by the military, to Nottingham, as a place of refuge, lest they should fall a sacrifice to the vengeance of the rioters.

16. A most important discovery has been made within these two days, which removes every shadow of doubt respecting the guilt of the late suicide Williams. It was proved before the magistrates of Shadwell office, that three weeks before the murder of Mr. Williamson and his family, Williams had been seen to have a long French knife with an ivory handle. That knife could never be found in Williams's trunk, or amongst any of the clothes he left behind him,

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at the Pear-Tree public-house. The subsequent search to find it has been successful. On Tuesday, Harrison, one of the lodgers of the Pear-Tree public-house, in searching amongst some old clothes, found a blue jacket, which he immediately recognized as part of Williams's apparel. He proceeded to examine it closely, and upon looking at the inside pocket, he found it quite stiff with coagulated blood, as if a blood-stained hand had been thrust into it. He brought it down to Mrs. Vermillye, who instantly sent for Hope and another of the Shadwell police officers, to make further search in the house. Every apartment then underwent the most rigid examination, for about an hour and a half, when the officers came at last to a small closet, where they discovered the object of their pursuit. In one corner of the closet there was a heap of dirty stockings and other clothes, which being removed, they observed a bit of wood protruding from a mouse-hole in the wall, which they immediately drew out, and at the same instant they discovered the handle of a clasp-knife, apparently dyed with blood; which upon being brought forth, proved to be the identical French knife seen in Williams's possession before the murders; the handle and blade of which were smeared all over with blood. This fact completes that chain of strong circumstantial evidence already adduced against the suicide. The bloody jacket also tends to confirm his guilt. It is pretty clear, that that part of his apparel must have been stained with the blood of the unfortunate Mrs. Williamson, when the suicide

was transferring her money with his bloody hand, to his pocket.

18. An uncommon circumstance in the annals of juries occurred on Thursday. The case of the ship *Anna Maria* came on to be tried at Guildhall; after which, the jury retired to consider of their verdict; Mr. G. Barclay being their foreman. When the court closed, the jury had not made up their minds on the subject. They continued in the Irish chamber all night, and yesterday morning they were as undecided as ever. Towards the afternoon, Mr. B. Hutton, one of the jurymen, petitioned the court to be released, which was attended to. We understand that a new trial will be necessary, and of course a fresh jury.

Nottingham, Jan. 19.—On Saturday night week a number of men, supposed not less than forty, disguised in various ways, and armed with pistols, &c. proceeded to the house of Mr. Benson; and, after sentinels had been placed at all the neighbours' doors, and the avenues leading to it, about eight entered; and some of them drove the family into the pantry, with threats of immediate death, if they created the least alarm with the exception of one woman, who was expected every hour to fall in travail, and she was permitted to remain in the parlour; the rest proceeded into the work-shop, and demolished the eight frames in about as many minutes. They escaped without detection. On Monday evening, about six o'clock, eight men entered the house of Mr. Noble, at New Radford, in various disguises, and armed with different instruments; while one

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remained

remained below to take care of Mrs. Noble, the others proceeded up stairs to demolish four warp lace frames, because they were making what is called two-course hole. In vain Mr. Noble informed them that he was receiving eight-pence a yard more than the standard price, "It was not the price," they said, "but the sort of net they objected to;" and he was forced out of his frame with the blow of a sword which narrowly missed his head, and which cut asunder nearly the whole of the threads across his frames. The screams of his wife, (which a severe blow on the head with the butt end of a pistol could not still), brought him down to her assistance, where he found a neighbour who had come in at the back door to their aid, and who, in conjunction with Mr. Noble, seized the man in the house, and attempted to disarm him; but he, finding himself in danger, called out "Ned Ludd," when his companions rushed down stairs, before they had demolished the fourth frame, to his rescue: and in the scuffle, one of them snapped a pistol, which happily missed fire. When their companion was liberated, they found the door fast; but they cut it in pieces in a few seconds, and forced their way through a collected crowd, threatening destruction to any one who should attempt to oppose them. The house of Mr. Slater of New Radford, was also entered late on Tuesday night; the first man presenting a drawn sword to his breast when he opened the door, suspecting it had been his own apprentice who wanted to come in; but the depredators con-

tented themselves with cutting the warp asunder on the beam of the frame, and with taking away the wheels which are necessary to the formation of the two-course hole mesh. The same night two plain cotton frames were broken at Sneinton; their holders being charged with working at an abated price. On Saturday night week, a hay-stack was burnt at Bulwell; and we have just learnt that two frames, belonging to a hosier in this town were last night broken in the parish of Westhallam, in Derbyshire. A picquet of a hundred men now parades the streets of Nottingham, in separate parties, headed by the civil authorities every night.

24. The following article is extracted from the Plymouth Telegraph:—"On the evening of the 20th instant, Margaret Hoxtable of Dodbrooke, near Kingsbridge, a child only nine years old, was sent on an errand by her mother to a neighbouring shoemaker's; but it was to return no more—for enticed, as it is supposed, by two men, with whom she had been seen on the Totnes road, she was first violated, and then murdered in the most inhuman manner. Her parents made every research and inquiry for their child, but to no purpose, until the following morning, when her shift was discovered about a mile from Dodbrooke, much torn and dyed with blood. On searching further, her mangled corpse was found in the same field, perfectly divested of clothing. Her head, smashed to pieces, apparently with stones, was literally driven into the earth. The perpetrators of this crime have hitherto escaped detection."

25. On

25. On Thursday night week last, in the evening, as Mr. Branigan, of South-lodge, in Tipperary, was going from his house to his stable, three men, who had lain in wait, presented their pieces at him, and desired him to deliver his arms. Mr. B. who had no arms, returned into the house, pursued by one of the ruffians, who commanded him to quench the candle. Mr. B. obeyed, and instantly locked up the villain on the inside. Feeling his danger, the fellow discharged his blunderbuss. The muzzle was so close to Mr. B. that his clothes were set on fire, and his shoulder miserably lacerated; but Mr. B. seized the ruffian. Mrs. B. hearing the shot, ran out of the parlour with a candlestick in her hand, and struck the villain three blows on the face; which so stunned him, that she and her husband were able to drag him to the kitchen. The robber was beginning to struggle, when an unexpected auxiliary appeared. A house-dog seeing his master attacked, secured the robber by the arm which held the blunderbuss; and he was so perfectly crippled, that Mr. and Mrs. B. tied him and locked him up in the cellar. Mr. B. then hearing the fellows abroad firing shots, loaded the blunderbuss, and guarded the house until morning, when he sent for a magistrate, who came with a military force, and took Michael Wall, the fellow thus secured, and another named Cooney.

Nottingham.—The outrages in this town and the counties adjacent are continued with as much activity and malignity as ever, and may be said to have assumed a

more decided character than at any period since the commencement of the malpractices. A letter received in town yesterday morning states, that between 30 and 40 frames were broken on Sunday night, and several the following evening. The most turbulent spirit is strongly manifested in all the proceedings of the Luddites, which have been extended to Yorkshire. They have destroyed by fire, a crop-mill at Leeds, merely because upon a new plan, it was found to do the work of a number of men, consequently was a considerable saving to the proprietors. Catmankey, Basford, New Radford, and Lidley were scenes of the most daring depredations in the beginning of the week.

28. The spirit of insurrection which has so long disgraced the county of Nottingham has been rendered doubly alarming, from the secrecy with which it has been conducted, and the dispatch with which the objects it embraces have been carried into execution. In most of the villages where so many frames have been broken, parties of the military have been stationed, but their exertions have been inadequate towards the apprehension of the offenders. Such is the regularity with which their plans are laid, and the dexterity with which they are carried into effect, that it has been found impossible to detect them. They assemble and disperse when their object has been obtained in a moment. They are marshalled and disciplined like a regular army, and are commanded by one particular leader, under whose banners they swear to conquer or die! at the moment of my writing this

this letter, I hear with extreme regret, that general Hawker, is gone off to Bulwell, a manufacturing village, about six miles distant, with a strong party of the Berkshire Militia, and two officers, to quell a most serious disturbance in that quarter. I hear that two other regiments (of infantry) have received orders to march forthwith to Nottingham; the proportion of military now in this town being insufficient for the purpose of procuring the public security throughout the country. That a farther military force is necessary in the county, there can be but one opinion. Several Bow-street officers have arrived from London, and more are daily expected.

29. It is impossible to convey a proper idea of the state of the public mind in this town during the last four or five days: the constant parading of the military in the night, and their movements in various directions during both night and day, give us the appearance of a state of warfare. May we not have it more in reality!

The destruction of more than 20 frames, at Lenton, on Thursday evening last, within a few hundred yards of our barracks, and two being cleanly carried away in a neighbouring hamlet the same night, heightened the state of alarm; and the operations of several subsequent nights have given it an additional increase.

On Saturday night the frame-breakers crossed the river Trent, and broke fourteen frames at Ruddington, and twenty at Clifton, leaving but two whole in the latter town. An express was sent off to Nottingham for a troop of the Hussars, who

went with all possible speed; and as many of the Bunney troop of yeomanry as could be collected (they being in the neighbourhood of the scene of action), were immediately mounted—one party pursued the depredators, while others seized all the passes over the Trent, for the space of four miles, under a full persuasion that the Luddites could not escape; but, such is the generalship of the latter, that they seized a boat which nobody else had thought of, and repassed the river in two divisions, in perfect safety, and escaped.

The same night a frame was broken at Bulwell, while a sergeant and six men, belonging to the Berkshire militia, were employed to watch it—the parties exchanged shots several times, but it is not known that any one was wounded, though one of the Luddites lost a shoe and his hammer.

On Sunday night 45 frames were broken at Selson, Bagthorp, and the neighbouring hamlets, about nine miles from this town; and the same evening, about seven o'clock, a circumstance took place at Basford of the most daring description; for, while three soldiers were in the house of one Wm. Barns, to protect three frames, a party of Luddites entered the house, and immediately confined the soldiers; and while two of the party stood sentry at the door with the soldiers' muskets, others demolished the frames; and, when the mischief was done, the muskets were discharged, and the soldiers liberated, the depredators wishing them a good night.

On Monday evening three more frames were broken in the same village,

village, one of which was taken and fixed on the top of the round-house, or village prison, and there left as a public spectacle, which was seen by many.

These things are done almost in the face of eight officers from Bow-street, an immense local police, and three regiments of soldiers.

The last mentioned night 26 frames were demolished at Cotgrave, a village six miles south of the Trent; and the depredators again escaped across the water without detection; and, notwithstanding the number of men who have been taken up, it is the general opinion, that not one real frame-breaker has been taken; nor, from the best information that can be obtained, has any thing like correct evidence been drawn from any of the prisoners.

Four prisoners were yesterday brought in, with great parade, by three several parties of military and civil officers; two of whom are persons who have had frames broken in their own houses, and another is a well-known maniac of the name of Waplington, who is at the present time a pauper of St. Mary's parish, in this town, and who has for years been in the habit of wandering about. It excited much laughter to see a Bow-street officer, with this poor creature confined in a cart by his side, driving furiously along the streets, and guarded by about half a score of Hussars. It is supposed the maniac has been caught in one of his wandering excursions; and, as usual, refused to give an account of himself.

27. On Saturday week the shock of an earthquake was felt in many

places in Oxfordshire. In Tetworth, Islip, Blechingdon, Radley, and Wolvercote, the windows were much shaken. It was accompanied by a deep rumbling noise, similar to the sound of a distant discharge of heavy ordnance.

On Monday last, that ancient edifice, the tower of Christ Church, Oxford, which contains Great Tom, was in imminent danger of being destroyed by fire. A room adjoining this venerable structure, the hearth-stone of which was laid on a large oak beam, it is conjectured, had taken fire, and been secretly burning for two or three days before it was discovered. Alarm was given, and assistance procured in time to prevent the consequences that must otherwise have ensued.

Considerable discussion took place at Lincoln, on Thursday, at a meeting for the adoption of the system of national education, on an amendment moved by Sir R. Heron, "That the plan of education adopted by the meeting, should be such as not to exclude the children of Christian dissenters from the advantage of the education proposed; and that those children should be permitted to attend divine service at the respective places of their religious worship." A debate arose on the principle, that it militated against the fundamental object of the society. The speakers were, in support of sir Robert Heron's motion, Mr. Langton, Mr. Mawer, and Mr. Draper. In support of the original proposition, the lord lieutenant, the dean of Lincoln, sir J. W. Gordon, the rev. S. Turner, col. Ellison, the rev. Mr. Hett, Mr. Turner, Mr. Dalton, Mr. Cholmeley, Mr. Hare, Mr. F. Chaplin,

Chaplin; and Mr. Massingberd. The amendment was negatived, and the original resolutions carried.

Leeds Sessions. — *The Toleration Act.* — Mr. Robert Wood, a preacher in the methodist connection, presented himself before the magistrates, and requested that the oaths might be administered to him, that he might make the declaration required by the Toleration act, to qualify him to officiate as a dissenting teacher.

The Bench inquired, if he was appointed a teacher to any specific congregation?

The Rev. Mr. Wood, sen. who is also a travelling preacher in the same connection, replied, that his son was to preach at Bramley.

Recorder. — “Suffer the young man to answer the question himself.”

Mr. Robert Wood. — “It is intended that I should preach at Bramley, Armley, and other villages in the vicinity.”

The recorder, after some conversation with the Bench and the counsel near him, resumed: — “From a report of a case just published, it appears, that the Court of King’s Bench have decided, that a protestant dissenter, who states himself as one who preaches to several congregations, without showing that he has a separate congregation attached to him, is not entitled to take the oaths and make the declaration required by the Toleration act. It will, therefore, be necessary for you to prove your appointment to preach to a separate congregation, before you can be entitled to take the oaths.”

Mr. Maude here observed, that though the Court of King’s Bench

did not, in the case cited, think proper to issue a mandamus to compel the magistrates to administer the oaths, it did not follow that the oaths might not be administered as heretofore, without requiring those new conditions which were never before heard of.

Mr. Hainsworth, in reply, said, the magistrates could only administer the oaths agreeably to the provisions of the Toleration act; and if that act required certain previous conditions, it was not in the power of that bench, or any other, to dispense with them; for if the magistrates, in the case alluded to, had required any thing to be done which the law had not made necessary, the Court of King’s Bench would have issued a mandamus to compel them to administer the oaths.

In these observations the Court coincided, and refused to administer the oaths.

Before the court adjourned, Mr. Holtby, a student under the tuition of the rev. Mr. Steadman, a dissenting minister at Bradford, presented himself for the same purpose, and his application was rejected on the same grounds; but it appeared that this gentleman had made application to an improper sessions, the court having no jurisdiction out of this borough; and he was advised to make application to the sessions for the riding. On this the applicant expressed some surprise at the new provisions which, after the lapse of a century, had been discovered in the Toleration act, and that magistrates had been uniformly in the practice of administering the oaths, without any reference to those conditions which

which the Court of King's Bench had decided to be necessary.

We insert this article as exemplifying that ambiguity in the Toleration act which produced the bill for its amendment, passed with general concurrence in the present session.

The Manilla frigate, captain Joyce, was unfortunately wrecked on the Haak sand, off the Texel, on the 20th January. She remained on the sand-bank for two days, during which time the Dutch fishing and pilot-boats, under the direction of admiral de Winter, made considerable exertions to save the crew; of whom, about 180 were preserved, including the captain. The frigate was completely water-logged, and could not be brought off. She had been sent to the Texel to ascertain the fate of the Hero and Grasshopper.

30. A man named John Bunton, was lately committed to the city gaol, at Norwich, for burglariously entering the premises of Messrs. Aggs, in the night, and stealing some twist cotton. The conductor of the manufactory has a daughter who superintends the department performed by women, and sleeps in a room adjoining. She was awakened by a noise, when, slipping on a great-coat that lay in her room, she ran to her father's chamber, who not being dressed with sufficient speed, she snatched up a large hammer, and went alone in the dark into the manufactory, where she perceived Bunton taking the twist cotton from a loom. She instantly struck him on the back of the head with the hammer, and on his turning about repeated the blow upon his forehead with such effect, as to bring him to the ground co-

vered with blood. Apprehending he might have accomplices, she shrieked, which brought her father to her assistance, and they secured the robber.

31. Some uneasiness was last week excited at Glasgow, originating in the distresses which have for a considerable time been experienced by the operative weavers in that city and neighbourhood.

For about a year past the weavers have been without full employment; and those who have been able to procure work have had their wages so much reduced, that few of them have been able to earn more than seven shillings per week, though many of them have large families.

About ten days ago, delegates from these men waited upon the magistrates of Glasgow, to represent to them their distressed state, and to solicit their attention to the misery of their families. What was the result of this application we have not learnt; but in a day or two after circular notices were sent to all the operative weavers for many miles round Glasgow, inviting them to assemble at the public Green, as on Thursday last. The magistrates, alarmed for the possible consequences, invited the delegates to a conference; represented to them the dangers that might be apprehended from so large an assemblage, and induced them to circulate new notices, prohibiting the proposed meeting.

The magistrates, we understand, have paid particular attention to the representations of these men; and we have no doubt, from the decorum which has been exhibited, that public order will be maintained.

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The master manufacturers have been required by the magistrates to have a meeting upon the business, and we doubt not that they will see the propriety of giving an increase of wages to those they employ. It cannot be denied that it is an extreme hardship to workmen, whenever there is a scarcity of employment, to experience at the same time a great reduction in the price of their labour.

A fine racoon was last week taken in the woods at Lord Grosvenor's seat at Eaton. It was discovered in the cleft of an aged oak, by a groom, who quickly started it, and with the assistance of dogs had it secured. It is supposed that this native of the forests had made its escape from the menagerie of some travelling showman.

FEBRUARY.

1. The city of Catania, which is not more than seven leagues from the crater of *Ætna*, has been strongly menaced by the torrents of lava with which the valley of Nusara was filled. The stream of lava flowed not more than one league from the walls of the city, which the inhabitants, in their first alarms, abandoned. A few days before the eruption of the volcano, a slight trembling was experienced at Messina, which damaged many of the houses. During the whole of the period of alarm, vessels were kept at Catania, on board which the English troops in garrison there might embark, in case the lava should penetrate into the city. Some of our officers caused themselves to be

transported to the foot of Mount *Ætna*, that they might examine more closely the course of the lava vomited from the crater.

The town of Sargans, consisting of about 400 houses, was reduced to a heap of ashes on the night of the 8th of December. There were a number of store-houses filled with grain, which were likewise destroyed. Fourteen of the inhabitants perished in the flames.

British Naval Force.—The following is extracted from the official returns of the force of Great Britain, up to the 1st inst.: At sea, 80 of the line, 9 fifties, 129 frigates, 97 sloops, 5 bombs, 123 brigs, 30 cutters, 59 schooners—total 522. In port and fitting, 43 of the line, 7 fifties, 30 frigates, 38 sloops, 1 bomb, 29 brigs, 6 cutters, 17 schooners—total 171. Guard-ships, 4 of the line, 1 fifty, 4 frigates, 5 sloops—total 14. Hospital ships, &c. 34 of the line, 4 fifties, 2 frigates—total 40. Total in commission, 161 of the line, 21 fifties, 165 frigates, 130 sloops, 6 bombs, 152 brigs, 36 cutters, 76 schooners—total 747. In ordinary, and repairing for service, 69 of the line, 13 fifties, 56 frigates, 37 sloops, 6 bombs, 10 brigs, 2 schooners—total 193. Building, 32 of the line, 2 fifties, 13 frigates, 5 sloops—total 52.—Grand total, 202 of the line, 36 fifties, 234 frigates, 172 sloops, 12 bombs, 162 brigs, 36 cutters, 78 schooners—in the whole, 992 vessels of war. Of the varied force of the British navy, there are in the Mediterranean, 87 vessels; 32 of the line. Off the coast of Spain and Portugal, 72; 15 of the line.

In the English Channel, 82; 14 of the line.

2. An alligator was shot through the head at Ghazepoore by an officer of the 67th regiment, which was 29 feet in length and seven in circumference. In the stomach were found several half-digested human limbs, the heads of two children, and more than twenty stones — probably swallowed in order to assist digestion.

A melancholy accident happened lately at Bergen, in Norway. In consequence of the heavy rains, an enormous stone was detached from the mountain, and falling upon some buildings, crushed 49 persons to death.

A silk weaver, named John Urssulak, died lately at Lemburg, in Prussia, at the age of 116 years. He had had six wives. The last, who survives him, brought him a son twelve months ago. He was extremely healthy and active, and walked six miles the day before his death.

3. For some time past, Osterley-park, the residence of the earl of Jersey, and its neighbourhood about Brentford, have been infested with numerous poachers. On Wednesday night, between eleven and twelve, George Wood, the gamekeeper, with three men, went in pursuit of poachers; and when they came to a field close under a wood belonging to the noble earl, they heard a noise, which, they had no doubt was the report of an air gun. They made towards the part whence the report came, and heard four more similar reports. When they came near the spot, they heard the breaking of bushes, and a large dog bark, who flew at them, and en-

deavoured to seize them; but they kept him off, and ran forward towards the bushes, where they observed a man going from them and running away. They ran after him, and coming near him, he turned about and presented a gun at them: however, they pursued him courageously, when the man turned his gun and endeavoured to knock the gamekeeper down with the but-end of it; but failing in that, he set off again. The gamekeeper followed closely, and he threw his gun into the bushes: the gamekeeper at length seized him by the collar, when a man of the name of John Goodfellow, rushed from a cover, and struck the gamekeeper a violent blow with an iron instrument; he repeated the blow, which knocked the gamekeeper down before he could recover himself, and enabled the man whom he had secured, and who had the gun, to escape. At this juncture Shepherd and Fletcher, two of the men who were out with the gamekeeper to assist him, came up and secured Goodfellow. A light was then procured, and the iron instrument proved to be an air-pump belonging to an air-gun, which was thrown into the bushes by the man who escaped. The air-pump was found about a yard off the spot where the gamekeeper received the blows. On the same spot was found a bag, containing leaden bullets, and another containing a hare and a pheasant, which appeared to have been killed by bullets. The air-gun was found in the bushes where the man threw it when he was pursued. Goodfellow was conveyed to the public office, Bow-street, on Thursday afternoon,

noon, and was convicted under the Game Acts of 39 and 40 of Geo. 3rd.; and detained for the assault on the gamekeeper.

5. On Saturday morning the curiosity of the inhabitants of Brighton was attracted by the appearance of nearly one hundred men, attired in yellow jackets and trowsers, walking about the streets smoking their pipes, who, after much inquiry, were found to be Spanish and German deserters, and prisoners from the French armies in Spain and Portugal, that had volunteered into the British service. Twenty of them have been received by the 10th hussars, and the rest are to be incorporated with the German Legion.

6. A most daring gang of thieves and receivers of stolen goods has been discovered and broken up, in the neighbourhood of Abergavenny and Crickhowell. They consisted principally of men employed at the iron-works in that district, of whom five have been committed to Brecon gaol, and two to Monmouth, charged with offences in the respective counties. A constable at Crickhowell had very minutely examined the house of one of the parties suspected of receiving the goods, when, upon sitting down in the lower apartment, he thought one of the flagstones moved. This induced a further search, and on, removing some of the stones, he found concealed, in a place curiously constructed for the purpose, a large quantity of shop-goods of every description.

Early this morning, some villains entered the house of John Johnston, esq. of Danson-hill, near Welling, in Kent, (late the

seat of sir John Boyd, bart.) The butler, who slept on the ground floor, was awakened about three o'clock by the noise of something falling in the housekeeper's room adjoining. Conceiving it might be some of the servants, he got up, and for a frolic, took a blunderbuss and advanced to the door, calling out, "now for your brains:" all was dark; at that moment a person pushed him, and another knocked him down; they then trampled upon him, and one of them made a cut at his throat with a sharp instrument, but without injuring him materially. The butler, who is a strong man, held the blunderbuss fast, and contrived to discharge it, though without effect. By this time the family were alarmed; Mr. Johnston sprang a rattle, and arming himself, and one of his sons, proceeded down stairs; they found the hall door open; and on descending to the range on the ground-floor, the butler had just recovered himself, the villains having fled but a few minutes; the other servants collected together, and the house was searched. It appeared that a boy had been let down into the coal-cellar, through the aperture outside the house, and had found means to make his way so as to open the outer doors for the robbers, who proceeded to the library, opened an escritoire where the keys of others were deposited, which they took, and by this means rummaged all the drawers completely. Mrs. Johnston kept some valuables there, the whole of which were afterwards found below stairs in the pockets of a great coat, that they had pressed into the service; they then proceeded to the house-keeper's

keeper's room; and packed up in a card cloth all the plate they could lay their hands on. Nothing, however, has been missed, with the exception of a small box they found in the escritoire, containing twenty or thirty guineas in gold. The whole plan of these robbers evidently showed that they acted from good information, as they found out keys where no stranger could have done so, and by this means got access directly to the

places where valuable articles were kept; they had a dark lantern; and it is remarkable that the boy, while the villains were struggling with the butler, was present, and managed the lantern so as to throw all the light on the butler's face, and hide the persons of the robbers. The butler behaved with great courage: he received several cuts on the hands, besides that on the throat, and was much bruised.

Return of the effective Strength of the Regular and Militia Forces, on the 25th of June, 1811, and the 25th Dec. 1811.

Adjutant-General's Office, Feb. 11, 1812.

At Home, on the 25th of June, 1811.

CAVALRY.			INFANTRY.			Total Regulars	Militia.	Gen. Total.
Brit.	For. and Colonial.	Foot Gds.	Brit.	For. and Colonial.				
13,575	2591	6344	47,442	2,192	69,144	77,424	146,568	

Abroad on the 25th of June, 1811.

10,196	1140	3350	98,076	34,851	147,613		147,613
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TOTAL.

23,771	3731	6694	145,510	37,043	216,757	77,424	294,181
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At Home, on the 25th of Dec. 1811.

12,050	1865	3748	45,501	2,745	65,909	77,159	143,068
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Abroad, on the 25th of Dec. 1811.

11,719	2136	3130	99,735	36,320	153,040		153,040
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TOTAL.

23,769	4001	6878	145,236	39,065	218,949	77,159	296,103
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Return of the number of recruits raised quarterly, by the ordinary modes of recruiting,—finally approved for the regular army (exclusive of foreign and colonial corps) in the year 1811:—

MEN.—For a limited period, 1,639. For life, 7,893 } Total 11,471
BOYS.—For a limited period, 360. For life, 1,580 }

The number of desertions from the regular army at home, from the 25th of December, 1810, to the 24th of December, 1811, was 3,631.

11. On Friday se'nnight, Mr. Batley, of the Old Park, near Wellington, Shropshire, was found murdered in a stone-quarry near that place: there was a deep wound on the crown of his head, another over his eyes, both appa-

rently made with a large sharp instrument, and two deep gashes across his throat: his head was dreadfully fractured in several places. His house was ransacked, all the drawers, &c. opened, every thing of value taken, and the keys were

were put in his pocket. There was no blood found near the body. Some suspicions being entertained respecting a neighbour, who had attempted to borrow money from the deceased, he was apprehended, and stands charged with the murder by the coroner's inquisition. It appears that the prisoner lived about a mile from the deceased; and one of the neighbours stated, that she saw Bailey go by her house towards that of the prisoner about five o'clock on the night when the murder was committed. Another witness said, she saw the prisoner, about nine o'clock on the same night, dragging something from a new-built house, in which he carried on his business of a cooper—that he left his burden on the steps while he looked up and down the road, and then dragged it round the house. Upon examining these premises, much blood was discovered upon the walls, and on the floor in the cellar; the former had been scraped, and the latter was covered with sand: the prisoner accounted for this blood by saying, that part of a horse had been left there. A shirt was found under the coals in the cellar, having the initials of the deceased upon it. In the prisoner's house a cooper's adze was discovered, with marks of blood upon it, and the edge of which fitted the wounds on the top of the head and over the eyes of the deceased; the fractures on the skull corresponded with the hammer-formed part of the adze. The prisoner was committed to Shrewsbury county gaol on Monday.

14. Letters received yesterday from Manchester state, that several of the most respectable manufac-

turers had been recently threatened with the conflagration of their premises. The villains, it is added, had even the audacity to send a circular letter to several houses which they had marked out for destruction. The first house on their list was that of Messrs. Haigh, Marshal, and Co.; and on Sunday night, these gentlemen's premises were set on fire, and entirely destroyed. Every precaution has been taken to prevent further mischief; and a strict inquiry is making to trace out the incendiaries.

17. On Tuesday, an inquest was held at Otley, in Yorkshire, on the body of a gentleman, who, on the preceding Sunday, had put a period to his existence by a pistol. It appeared that he first came to Otley in April last, and had divided the intermediate time between that place, Harrowgate, and Thorp-arch, visiting each alternately. He pointedly avoided all society, and devoted the whole of his time to deeds of charity, never suffering a day to pass without distributing from one to fifty pounds in the course of the morning. On the Sabbath he generally confined himself to the house, avoiding religiously every secular pursuit. On the Friday before his death, he came from Thorp-arch to Otley. On his arrival, the people at the inn observed a considerable change in him; his spirits were more depressed. Verdict—*Lunacy*. He left a particular request to be buried in the church-yard at Kirby Overblow, and he was there interred on Wednesday last.

19. On Monday se'nnight, a distressing scene occurred at Happisburgh, in Norfolk. A north-country vessel had driven ashore in the

the gale which prevailed during that day and the preceding evening, and was lying just beyond the breakers. Five brave fellows of the above place went off in a boat, though a most tremendous surf, to assist the crew in their endeavours to get the vessel off, she being light. After having cleared the breakers, and, as they vainly hoped, surmounted all their difficulties, whilst under the bow of the vessel, a sea, heavier than they had before experienced, struck the boat, and in an instant turned her bottom upwards. The spectators on the beach viewed with painful solicitude the fate of the poor sufferers. After watching for a quarter of an hour the progress of every wave, not a man could be seen afloat. The boat, which had been driven by the tide, by this time approached the shore near enough for the persons standing thereon to seize hold of her; while they were employed in dragging her out of the reach of the breakers, a sea struck her with such violence as to bilge in one of her sides, from whence crept, uninjured, the five men whose fate they were deploring. They ascribed their truly providential escape to the suddenness with which the boat was capsize, by which means not only themselves were overwhelmed by her, but a quantity of air was included; and by holding on the seats, they were enabled to keep their heads above water, and by so doing respiration continued, and their lives were preserved.

20 The rev. Ebenezer Aldred, a dissenting minister, from the High Peak, in Derbyshire, appeared in a boat upon the Thames, dressed in a white linen robe, with his long hair flowing over his

shoulders, and announced that the seven vials, mentioned in the book of Revelations, were to be poured out upon the city of London.

22. Mr. Standen, who resides near Hastings, in returning from market, was stopped at Hollington lane, about a quarter of a mile from the town, by two soldiers of the 16th dragoons, armed with pistols. They demanded his money, instantly knocking him from his horse, wounded him severely in the face, and then robbed him of his pocket-book containing 30l.; and, after much ill usage, permitted him to depart. Instead, however, of proceeding towards his home, Mr. Standen returned by a circuitous rout along the beach by the sea side, into the town, and gave the alarm at the principal inns and public-houses, before the footpads could succeed in reaching the town or their quarters unobserved. Measures were immediately taken by the commanding-officer, to intercept the robbers on their return to their quarters. On being secured, the offenders were taken before the magistrates, when it was discovered that their clothes had been turned, and blood stains were fresh on the inside of their jackets. Finding the evidence so strong against them, they confessed the robbery, and stated that they had concealed Mr. Standen's pocket-book behind the shutters of a blacksmith's shop, where it was accordingly found, with its contents. The prisoners were committed to Lewes gaol, for trial at the assizes.

24. The following is an extract from the Nottingham Review of Friday:—

“It is with much pain that we have

have to renew our weekly list of broken frames: as, however, the frame-breakers still continue their operations in despite of every exertion of the civil and military authorities, we must do our duty to the public. This morning, about five o'clock, a number of men entered in at the chamber window of Mr. Harvey, West-street, Broad-lane, in this town, and while some of them secured the family, others proceeded into the workshop, and demolished five warp-lace frames, which were employed in making two-course-hole net: they were all very valuable frames, and one of them was 72 inches wide; and, what is worthy of remark, Mr. Harvey had, a short time ago, removed from New Radford to this town, as a place of safety. Two frames were left unbroken; and it is supposed they were saved through a neighbouring woman calling out 'murder,' and who had a pistol discharged at her to make her cease her noise. Mr. Harvey had two loaded pistols and a blunderbuss in his house, the former of which the frame breakers took away; and as they were descending from the window, it was thought by persons who saw them, that the nightly piquet was receiving them to conduct them to prison; but it turned out to be about twenty-five of their companions, armed and dressed in soldiers, great coats, one of whom was dignified with a large staff, and, it is supposed, he was the commander of the party. On Monday morning, five men entered the house of Edward Orson, of Stanton, in Derbyshire, and broke one narrow cotton, frame."

About a week ago, serjeant

Ives, of the West Essex militia, was stopped between Stilton and Norman-cross, at eight in the evening, by a number of fellows, who, after having knocked him down and robbed him of his watch and money, wrenched open his jaws, and with savage cruelty cut off a piece of his tongue! It is said that the serjeant has lately been active in suppressing the plat-trade at Norman-cross barracks; revenge, therefore, in all probability, instigated the ruffians to this atrocious act.

Plymouth, Feb. 25.—To-day this place has been visited by a more dreadful thunder-storm than has been experienced here for many years. The lightning was exceedingly vivid, and the claps tremendously loud, accompanied with a heavy shower of hail. Several persons who were on the citadel at the time, distinctly saw the electric fluid strike one of the guns; its direction was from S. W. to N. E. nearly. In this dreadful storm the fore and main top-mast of his majesty's ship, *Tonnant*, were struck with lightning, which shattered them, and beat down and wounded no less than twenty-four persons on board that vessel. A merchant brig, which also was at anchor in Cawsand bay, and near the former, was struck at the same time, on board of which two men were killed. A seaman, who was at the main top-mast head of the *Salvador del Mundo*, in *Hamoaze*, was also struck by the lightning, and knocked down dead on the deck; and another seaman who was standing on the quarter-deck of this vessel at the moment, was so much burned, that his life is despaired of. These awful occurrences

currences took place from eleven to twelve o'clock.

25. On the evening of a fair at Ballynahinch, in Ireland, the week before last, the spirit of party broke out between several of the lower orders, styling themselves Threshers on the one side, and Orangemen on the other, who proceeded to the utmost violence. They ran up and down the streets, pursuing and pursued, armed with sticks, huzzaing and shouting; after which, the attack became more serious by volleys of stones thrown in every direction; an attack was made upon some of the houses, the windows of three of which were wrecked, when two shots were fired from one of these houses, by which a man was killed on the spot, and another dangerously wounded. Two other men lay dangerously ill from bruises from bludgeons and stones, and several others received like damage,—not dangerously. There were on both sides above 300 people.

On Friday se'night last, a meeting took place at Castle Connor, near Ballina, in the county of Roscommon, between Mr. O. Joynt and Mr. P. McKim, attended by their respective seconds, and a vast number of spectators, when, on the first fire, the latter was struck in the forehead, and instantly expired.

MARCH.

1. A caricature has been exhibited at Paris, in which the emperor and the king of Rome are the most prominent characters. The emperor is represented as sitting at a table in the nursery, with a cup

of coffee before him, into which he is squeezing beet-root. Near to him is seated the young king of Rome, voraciously sucking the beet-root. The nurse, who is steadfastly observing him, is made to say, "Suck, dear, suck, your father says it is sugar."

Dolphins.—The journal of the department of *Cotes du Nord* contains a report from M. le Maoux, professor of natural history, to the prefect of the department, stating that some fishermen of Plonbazlanec lately fell in with seventy enormous dolphins, which they chased. One of these animals, having been wounded, fled towards the shore, and all the rest proceeded in the same direction. Having got aground, and being deprived of their element, they struggled several days, uttering mournful sounds. The scene filled the spectators with pity and terror. Among the seventy, twelve were sucking, each seven feet and a half long; the largest of the adults was a female, nineteen feet long, and her greatest circumference was ten feet.

2. A most daring robbery was committed at Reading. The judges entered the town for the purpose of holding the assize. Mr. Sergeant Marshall officiated as judge for Mr. Justice Lawrence. Coming out of the church in grand procession, the sergeant judge in his robes was hustled and robbed of his gold watch and seals.

When the Bath coach, which left town on Monday night, March 2, arrived at Chippenham on the succeeding morning, the people of the inn were surprised at seeing three outside passengers lying in a state of insensibility; on a nearer approach, they perceived that vitality had been

been actually extinct in two of them for some time, the bodies being perfectly cold. The third, a soldier, had some faint signs of animation left; but he expired the following morning. From some papers found in the pockets of one of them, he proved to be a journeyman pewterer, from London, who being afflicted with a contraction in his wrists, had obtained an order for admission into the Bath Infirmary, for the benefit of the waters. On the above fatal night it rained incessantly; and to the cold, added to the drenched state of their garments, the fatal catastrophe was doubtless owing.

3. The Nottingham paper of Saturday does not make any mention of disturbances during the last week; but a disposition to riot has manifested itself near Huddersfield, in Yorkshire. Last Saturday week a number of persons assembled near the premises of Mr. Joseph Hirst of Marsh, with their faces blacked, and their persons in other respects disguised, and having forcibly obtained admittance into the dressing-shops, proceeded to destroy all the machinery used in the dressing of cloth, such as dressing frames, shears, and other implements, used in what is commonly called gig mills, the whole of which they completely demolished. The same, or a similar party, then proceeded to the workshops of Mr. James Balderson, of Crossland-Moor, where machinery of a similar description is employed; upon which they committed similar depredations, completely destroying or rendering useless the whole of the machinery. The depredations appeared to the magistrates to be of so alarming a nature, that they

were induced to apply to general Vyse, at Beverley, for military aid, who dispatched an express to Leeds, with an order for the troop of Scotch Greys stationed there, to proceed immediately to Huddersfield. It not being thought expedient to leave Leeds without military, a squadron of cavalry was marched from Sheffield, and arrived about nine o'clock on Tuesday morning; and, in the afternoon of the same day, a squadron of the 2nd Dragoon Guards, stationed at the barracks near York, was dispatched to Huddersfield, to relieve the Scotch Greys, who returned to Leeds on Thursday.

5. Several dead bodies were found on the north shore, near Liverpool, which were of course, supposed to have come from some vessel which must have been wrecked during the very severe gales of the preceding night. By the inscription on part of the stern of a vessel which has been found, she appears to have been the Fly packet, from Newry to Liverpool. There is reason to believe, from the best information that has yet been received, that the number of persons on board was not less than forty, every soul of whom appears to have perished.

9. Disturbances in the vicinity of Huddersfield continue. On Wednesday an armed party broke into a mill, situated between Slaithwaite and Huddersfield; after they had effected their purpose, the leader drew up his men, each man answering to a particular number instead of his name, then fired off their pistols, and marched away.

10. At the Isle of Ely assizes, on Thursday last, Michael Whiting, a shop-

a shopkeeper at Downham, near Ely, and a dissenting lay preacher, was indicted under lord Ellenborough's Act, in a charge of administering poison to George Langman and to Joseph Langman, his brothers-in-law. It appeared in evidence that the Langmans resided together at Downham, and were small farmers; and that their family consisted of themselves, a sister, named Sarah, about ten years of age, and a female domestic, of the name of Catharine Carter, who acted as their housekeeper and servant: they had another sister who was married to the prisoner. On the morning of Tuesday the 12th of March last, they sent their sister to the prisoner's house to borrow a loaf; the prisoner returned with her, and brought a loaf with him, and told the Langmans, that as he understood their housekeeper was going on a visit to her friends, for a day or two, he would bring them some flour and pork to make a pudding for their dinner. He went away, and shortly afterwards returned with a bason of flour and pork; and, addressing himself to the housekeeper, said, "Catharine, be sure you make the boys a pudding before you go." He then took the young child home with him to dinner. The housekeeper made two puddings, but observed the flour would not properly adhere; she left them in a kneading trough; and the Langmans boiled one for dinner: they had hardly swallowed two or three mouthfuls before they were taken exceedingly ill, and seized with violent vomitings. Suspecting the pudding had been poisoned, one of the Langmans gave a small piece to a sow in the

yard, which swallowed it, and was immediately taken sick, and after lingering a long time, died. The elder brother soon recovered, but the younger one continued in a precarious state for several days. The remnants of the puddings were analyzed by Mr. Woolaston, professor of chemistry at the University of Cambridge, and found to contain a considerable quantity of corrosive sublimate of mercury.

The prisoner, who it appeared was a dealer in flour, attempted to account for the puddings being poisoned, by stating, that he had then lately laid some *nux vomica* to poison vermin, and that some of it must accidentally have been carried into his flour-bin. Mr. Woolaston, however, positively stated, that the pudding contained no other poisonous ingredient than corrosive sublimate; and it came out in evidence, that the prisoner, who sold drugs, had purchased of the person whom he succeeded in business, a considerable quantity of that poison. It also appeared, that the flour-bins belonging to the prisoner had been searched, and that immediately upon its being discovered that the Langmans had taken poison, the prisoner emptied his bins into the privy, and washed them out. Mr. Alley, from London, conducted the prisoner's defence; the trial lasted till six o'clock at night, and the jury, after deliberating about ten minutes, found the prisoner guilty, and the judge immediately passed sentence of death, and he is left for execution. By the deaths of the two Langmans, under age, the prisoner's wife, and the child he took home with him, would have become entitled to the father's

estate, as the heiresses of their brothers.

A letter from Serampore, dated March 12th, gives an account of a fire which broke out in the printing-office, at the Mission-house, on the evening of the 11th of March, destroying 2,000 reams of English paper, worth 5,000*l.* and founts of type in fourteen languages, besides English. The loss could not be less than 12,000*l.* and all the literary labours of the missionaries were interrupted at once.

Hamburgh, March 12. — The following notice has been published here:—

“The undersigned, inspector of printing and bookselling, hastens to inform the public, that maj.-general baron Pommereul, counsellor of state, director-general of printing and bookselling, has authorized the following journals to be dispatched and received, without any special permission on his part, throughout the whole of the 32nd military division. [Here follows a list of these journals, which are all of them German periodical publications, on medicine, agriculture, natural history, &c.] In order to procure these journals, recourse may be had to the different booksellers and post-offices in the 32nd military division, who will point out the forms to be observed.

“It is to be hoped that the editors and authors of these journals will know how to appreciate this beneficent permission. It will be for their interest to abstain from every dissertation or reflection of a political nature. The right of publishing articles on subjects connected with politics belongs to governments alone. Every scientific

journal, therefore, which shall permit their insertion, will become liable to suppression, in addition to the prosecutions which the editor and author will thus draw upon themselves. On the other hand, by strictly confining themselves within the sphere of the sciences and arts, to which their journals are appropriated, they may rest assured of the favour and approbation of a wise government, which protects the sciences and arts that are truly useful, and every thing that contributes to improve them.

(Signed) “JOHANNOT,
Inspector of Printing, &c.
“Hamburgh, March 6.”

16. At the Lincoln assizes, John Fieldsend, late of Driby, who voluntarily surrendered himself into custody, on the 9th of March instant, was tried for feloniously killing Joseph Faulkinder, on the 7th of May, 1810. The deceased, it appeared, was a youth about 9 years of age, in the service of the prisoner's father. For some offence, the prisoner severely whipped the lad, who, however, went home, ate his supper heartily, and made no complaint; but in the night complained of one of his knees, grew drowsy, and died, without being suspected to be very ill, in two days. On examining the body, it was found much bruised and discoloured about the loins and thighs; and, on being opened by two surgeons, they gave it their opinion that he had died from the absorption into the system of extravasated and mortified blood. The jury, however, from the peculiar circumstances of the case, acquitted the prisoner, who, it is to be observed, had at first gone to America; but, as if unable to

to rest there, had returned, and delivered himself up to take his trial.

17. On St. Patrick's-day, a riot took place at Portsmouth between the North Cork militia stationed at Gosport, and some watermen, who insulted the soldiers. The Irishmen attacked the watermen, who procured the aid of their countrymen, and in a short time the beach was thronged with combatants. All the shops were shut up, and a regiment was ordered out to quell the disturbance, which with difficulty they accomplished, but not till one boy was killed, and about twenty men and a boy wounded, some of them dangerously. The following night the streets were patrolled by parties of soldiers.

A very sudden and fatal accident occurred on Sunday se'n-night, at the distillery of Messrs. Hewit and Co. on the water-course, Cork. The iron hoops of a large worm cooler, which contained nearly sixty thousand gallons of water, suddenly burst, and this vast body, which in a moment became unconfined, impetuously spread and overwhelmed every thing which presented any resistance to it. A wall which was immediately between this large vessel and the street, was forced from its position, and two females who were passing, killed, and one so dreadfully bruised as to render the amputation of both legs necessary to preserve life.

19. Corporal Lennie, of the Fife-shire militia, was found at seven o'clock on this morning, on the road between Stonehaven and Bervie, nearly covered with snow, and with life almost expended. He

had been left in Aberdeen on Wednesday, in charge of the barracks, to deliver them over to the 21st regiment; and set out with some of his comrades, at four o'clock in the afternoon, for Stonehaven, which he reached about eight. He soon after left that place alone, and as he had only got to the distance of three miles from it, he must have remained among the snow for upwards of nine hours, during a very intense frost. Under an unremitting application of the means for restoring suspended animation, he continued in insensibility until five in the afternoon. When first discovered, he was taken to Uras, where he recovered. He had no recollection of any thing after leaving Aberdeen, when, he said, he was excessively fatigued. It is probable, that the covering of snow protected him considerably from the effects of the frost, otherwise he must have fallen a victim to the cold.

Maidstone, March 20. — The following instance of passionate cruelty deserves record.

Thomas Burton, a farmer at Kingsnorth, near Ashford, was indicted for the murder of John Manley, a drummer-boy of the 73rd regiment. It appeared, that the deceased, with four others, went from Ashford, to gather wild plums on the hedges, on the 5th of September last. They trespassed in the prisoner's orchard, at Kingsnorth; and while there, the prisoner and his man came up. The soldier lads, on seeing them, endeavoured to make their escape, but the prisoner overtook the deceased as he was getting over a fence, and gave him a violent blow on the head with a stake which he

held in his hand, which the witnesses for the prosecution described as thick as their arm. The blow knocked the deceased down, but he got up on his knees and begged for mercy. The prisoner then gave him another stroke on the breast. The deceased got up, walked a little way, and fell down again; he was removed to some straw near, and the prisoner seeing he was badly hurt, sent immediately for a surgeon, but before the surgeon came he was dead. It appeared, on examination, that there was a fracture in the skull, and a great effusion of blood on the brain, but that the skull was so remarkably thin, that a blow not very violent would probably have caused the fracture. The jury found the prisoner guilty of manslaughter. He was fined a shilling, and discharged.

At the Stafford assizes, B. Mycock was tried for the murder of his brother, on the 10th of February. It was proved that he lived with the deceased more than two years, and on some difference between them, left his service at Christmas last, and from that period to the time of the murder, lived with Mr. Harris, at Throwley-hall, within a mile of the deceased's premises; and that on the morning after the murder, he came into the house, clasped his hands, and exclaimed—"Ah, mistress, what is amiss; what is amiss?—is he dead?" It was farther proved that the prisoner had a gun repaired about the latter end of December last; that it was borrowed on the 10th of February by his nephew, G. Butt, to shoot a hare, and returned on the same day, loaded with shot, No. 4. It was placed by the prisoner under

some straw. On the 11th of February, G. Butt and his brother, on hearing of his uncle Joseph's death, went to look for the gun, which was found under the straw, unloaded, and had every appearance of being recently discharged. It was further proved, that the prisoner told his nephew, G. Butt, to state at the inquest, that the gun was his. After ten minutes deliberation, the jury found the prisoner—Guilty. He was executed on Wednesday, and his body delivered for dissection.

Bury St. Edmunds, March 21.—Trials for Murder. Edmund, alias Edward Thrower, was indicted for the murder of Eliz. Carter, at Cratfield, Suffolk, on the 16th of October, 1793. This prisoner was brought to justice by a train of accidents. He confessed the murder to one Heads soon after it was committed; but Heads, according to his statement, knew he was so much given to speaking falsehoods that he disbelieved him. The murder is just similar to that of the Marr and Williamson families. The prisoner went alone and knocked out the brains of Eliz. Carter, as she was fastening her window shutter, and then he went into the house and killed her father in a similar manner, whilst the old man was sitting in his arm chair. Some years after this, Heads, who had never before heard from any one but the prisoner that a murder of that sort had been committed, heard a brother felon in Norwich gaol lamenting that he had always been suspected of that murder innocently; and Heads recollected the confession the prisoner had made to him several years ago, of which he made
depo-

depositions before two magistrates, eleven years since, but Thrower, the prisoner, was never heard of, and supposed to be dead. At the time of the general alarm at the horrid murders of the Marr and Williamson families, Mr. Archdeacon Oldershaw, a magistrate, was observing to Mr. Fox, in common conversation, that a murder resembling those, occurred at Cratfield 19 years ago; and in mentioning his taking the deposition of Heads, he observed Thrower was suspected, but he never was found. Now Mr. Fox had a legacy to pay Thrower's wife, which could not be done without her husband's signature, and through this incident the prisoner was taken into custody, as well as Heads, both of whom had been transported.

Heads, in his evidence, told the same story he had done eleven years ago, of the prisoner's confession; and a person proved having heard a female shriek on the night of the murder, and that he saw a man run from the house. The body of the young woman was proved to have been found in the garden, which corroborated Head's story. There being other strong circumstantial evidence, the prisoner was found guilty, and ordered for execution on Monday at Ipswich, and afterwards his body to be dissected.

John Smith, aged 39, and Elizabeth his wife, aged 27, were indicted for the wilful murder of Mary Ann Smith, daughter of the male prisoner, at Cookley, in the county of Suffolk, by starving, beating, and exposing her three successive nights in a shed, in the month of December last, by which her feet became mortified, &c.

It appeared in evidence, that the male prisoner had three children by a former wife, who died about three years ago, and he married the female prisoner on the 8th of last November; and that from the 10th of December until the 11th of February, 1812, when the eldest of the three children, the subject of this indictment, died, the tortures administered to them were too horrible even for description.

Previous to his marriage with the female prisoner, the three children were admired by every one for their cleanliness and healthy appearance, and the male prisoner was marked for his parental kindness and affection towards his offspring.

Lucy Smith, sister of the male prisoner, proved that on the 4th of February, the male prisoner called on her in tears, and said his eldest child was dying. Witness found two of the once-healthy children sitting by the fire in a state so completely emaciated, that they appeared indifferent to any objects. On going up stairs a shocking object presented itself in the person of the eldest child, in bed, who was unable to stir from her emaciated state, and she was the picture of death. The poor child called out "Aunt, aunt, don't leave me." Witness challenged them with starving the children, and they agreed that they had not much drink. It also appeared afterwards that the child's feet were in a state of mortification, from having been exposed three nights in an outhouse, by the unnatural father. She was also much bruised about the neck and body by beatings; and her father confessed having hung her up to a beam by the middle,

dle, without cause. The other two children were in a shockingly emaciated state, and the witness took them under her roof.

Mrs. Clark proved completely that the children were all in a state of starvation. She often carried them cake and a little wine, which they all ravenously devoured.

Three surgeons gave it as their opinion, that the child died from the effects of barbarous treatment and want of food.

No disclosure of the mortified feet was made until it was found the child could not be saved; and one witness stated that the female prisoner had said they could live better without the children. To enter into a minute description of the barbarities towards the children would fill a volume. They were of the ages of four, seven, and nine years. The male prisoner was universally allowed to have been a kind tender father and husband, until his second marriage, and to such extent that he was particularly noted by many country gentlemen, some of whom spoke on this occasion.

The prisoners were found guilty, and ordered for execution at Ipswich on Monday next, whither they were immediately conveyed.

At the Wexford assizes, last week, Luke Green was convicted of the wilful murder of his son; the prisoner was a sweep, and his son was his apprentice. The prisoner, on the 3rd of December, came home somewhat in liquor, and began quarrelling with the deceased: the child, to avoid his fury, run up the chimney; the prisoner immediately put a bundle

of straw into the grate, and set fire to it, which burned him in such a manner that he languished for nine days, and then died. Prisoner was between sixty and seventy years of age.

Edinburgh, March 23. — Trial of Hugh M^cIntosh, Neil Sutherland, and Hugh M^cDonald. — The prisoners were accused, at the instance of his majesty's advocate, of having committed various crimes between the hours of ten of the night of the 31st of December, 1811, and four of the morning of the 1st of January, 1812.

The evidence, which was very long, disclosed a history of the outrages of the night preceding New Year's Day.

The Court met again at two o'clock on Saturday, when the jury returned their verdict, all in one voice finding the panel, Hugh M^cIntosh, guilty, actor or art and part, of the murder of Dugald Campbell, as libelled; and all in one voice finding the panels, Hugh M^cDonald, Hugh M^cIntosh, and Neil Sutherland, guilty, actors or art and part, of robbing ensign Humphrey Cochrane of his silver watch, as libelled; and further finding, all in one voice, the said panels, Hugh M^cDonald, Hugh M^cIntosh, and Neil Sutherland, guilty, actors or art and part, of robbing Nicol Allan of his yellow metal hunting watch, as libelled.

Their lordships, in delivering their opinions, expressed in strong terms the horror they felt at the extent of the guilt and depravity which the evidence on this trial unfolded—at the existence of an association of such a nature, and for such a length of time, as that

of which the prisoners had been proved to be members, and which was altogether unparalleled in any age or country. They were sentenced to be hanged on the 22nd next.

On Monday the 23rd, at midnight, about 40 men, numbers of them armed with pistols and other weapons, entered the shearing mill of William Thompson and brothers at Rawden, about seven miles from Leeds. Six or seven of the men, principally armed, seized the watchman, and held him on the floor. The commander ordered those who were not engaged in this service, to "go to work," and they proceeded to destroy the shears, of which they broke from thirty to forty pairs, and materially injured the machinery. They then assembled on an adjoining eminence, and after answering to their numbers, dispersed instantly. This proceeding was performed in about twenty minutes; in the course of which the depredators destroyed thirty-six windows, and injured three pieces of fine woollen cloth. And on Wednesday night the finishing shops of Messrs. Dickinson, Carr, and Shann, were entered, and eighteen pieces of fine cloth, dressed by machinery, torn and cut into shreds.

26. *Earthquake in South America.* — "The 26th of March has been a day of woe and horror to the province of Venezuela. At four p. m. the city of Caraccas stood in all its splendor; a few minutes later, 4,500 houses, 19 churches and convents, together with all the other public buildings, monuments, &c. were crushed to atoms by a sudden shock of an

earthquake, which did not last a minute, and buried thousands of the devoted inhabitants in ruins and desolation.

"That day happened to be Holy Thursday; and at the precise hour every place of worship was crowded to commemorate the commencement of our Saviour's passion by public procession, which was to proceed through the streets a few minutes afterwards. The number of hapless sufferers was thus augmented to an incredible amount, as every church was levelled with the ground before any person could be aware of danger. The number of sufferers taken out of the churches (two days after this disaster), amounted alone to upwards of 300 corpses. An idea of the extent of the number of dead is differently stated, from 4 to 6, and as far as 8,000. Horrible as this catastrophe appears, it would be a matter of some consolation to know that the vicinity of that city offered some support or shelter to the surviving mourners; but the next town and seaport thereto, viz. La Guayra, has in proportion suffered still more, as well as its immediate coast. Huge masses of the mountains detached themselves from the summits, and hurled down into the vallies. Deep clefts and separations of the immense bed of rocks still threaten future disasters to the hapless survivors, who are now occupied in burying and burning the dead, and in relieving the numerous wounded and cripples perishing for want of surgical aid, shelter, and other comforts."

The subjoined letters from Caraccas, and La Guayra, its port, afford some interesting particulars with

with regard to this terrible convulsion of nature, which seems almost to have rivalled the earthquake that laid Lisbon in ruins more than half a century ago.

Extract of a letter from Thomas Molini, esq. dated Caraccas, March 29, 1812, to his brother, in London:—"The dreadful catastrophe that took place in this city on Thursday last, my pen is not able to describe: you will, without doubt, receive the dreadful details from other quarters.

"My only motive for writing, is to allay your apprehensions relative to my person, and I hope you will receive this letter as soon as the shocking account reaches England.

"On the day above mentioned, at about seven minutes past four in the afternoon, we experienced one of the most dreadful earthquakes you can imagine. In less than three minutes one quarter of the town was laid in ruins, and the remaining three-fourths of the houses rendered totally uninhabitable. The number of lives lost is not yet ascertained, but the most moderate accounts estimate it at 5,000 souls.

"Similar accounts have reached us from La Guayra, and various other quarters: what is the extent of the evil in the interior we do not yet know. I fear the calamity has been general throughout the continent.

"P. S. general Miranda is well, and was out of town when the dreadful event happened."

Extract of a letter from captain Cuthbert, of the ship Highlander, dated La Guayra, April 1, 1812:

"Since my arrival here, one of the greatest calamities has occurred at this place that ever happened in

any country. On the 26th ult. whilst on board, I heard a most dreadful report of an earthquake: it lasted as nearly as my recollection will serve, about two minutes. I soon learnt that the town of La Guayra was laid in ruins, and that numbers of the inhabitants were killed and buried in them. The city of Caraccas, I understand, has experienced a still worse fate, and has been totally abandoned by the unfortunate inhabitants. The rocks and mountains were rent asunder; and it is impossible for pen to describe the devastation occasioned by this horrible explosion. The cargo which I was to have taken on board has shared the fate of nearly all the goods in the city, and has been swallowed up in the general ruin. When the shock was first felt on board, every person was impressed with the feeling that the ship was beating to pieces on the rocks. On my going on shore, the most awful and afflicting scene presented itself; hundreds of the suffering inhabitants were seen mixed with heaps of ruins, and many of them still yet alive with their heads out, imploring assistance from their fellow citizens, who, instead of affording them aid, were throwing themselves prostrate before images, beating their breasts, and imploring for themselves the protection of their saints. When the alarm had in some degree subsided, the bodies of the dead were sought for. I regret I have not been able to ascertain the extent of the loss which this hapless city has sustained."

An account of the total value of the forged notes presented at the Bank of England for payment; and refused, from being forged,
for

for the eleven years from 1st January, 1801, to 31st December 1811:—

The nominal value of the forged notes, presented for payment, and refused, within the above-mentioned period, is 101,661*l*.

H. HASE, chief cashier.
Bank of England, March 26, 1812.

N. B. The above return includes all forged notes, supposed to have been fabricated on the continent, and presented within the aforesaid period.

28. French Prisoners.—Upwards of 1,000 French prisoners have escaped from this country during the war, and so many persons have lately been detected in assisting in their escape, that those concerned have had a vehicle made for the conveyance of Frenchmen to avoid suspicion or detection, exactly resembling a covered cart used by calico-printers with strong doors at each end, but with seats in the inside to hold a number of men. One of them was detected about a week since in a very extraordinary way. Some revenue officers went into a public-house near Canterbury, where two men were playing at cards whom they suspected to be Frenchmen on their way to escape from this country. They communicated this to a magistrate, who informed them that at that hour of the night (about eight o'clock) the constable was generally intoxicated, and it would be of no use applying to him; but advised them to procure the assistance of some of the military in the neighbourhood, which the officers accordingly did, and surrounded the house. The landlord refused to open the door, saying it was too late. The soldiers told him they

were in search of deserters. A short time after two men came out of the back door, and the revenue officers suspecting they were two Frenchmen, secured them. Another came out directly afterwards, whom the soldiers stopped; he also was a Frenchman. They were conveyed away in custody. This was a mere chance detection, as the two men whom the revenue officers had seen at cards in the public-house early in the evening, proved not Frenchmen, but tradesmen of the neighbourhood; and while the officers were gone to the magistrate and after the military, a cart such as we have described arrived at the house with four Frenchmen. The fourth man, who was some time in coming out after the others, escaped into the London road, whither he knew the cart had returned, and overtook it, but the driver would not for a considerable time take him up, as he had only seen him in the night time, till he made him understand that he was connected with one Webb, the driver's employer. It being ascertained that the three Frenchmen in custody had been brought there in a cart, pursuit was made, and it was overtaken, and the driver and the Frenchmen were taken into custody; they were examined before a magistrate, when it appeared, from the confession of the driver, &c. that the four Frenchmen were officers, who had broke their parole from Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The cart had been fitted up with a seat to hold a number of Frenchmen. He was employed by Mr. Webb to drive the cart. The Frenchmen only got out of the cart at night to avoid observation. They stopped at bye places, and made

made fires under hedges. At a place near Brentford, a woman connected with Webb made tea for them. They stopped on Beckenham Common to rest the horse, about ten o'clock at night; when a horse patrolle passing at the time, suspected something to be wrong, but could not ascertain what. He insisted on the driver moving off; and when he was about putting the horse into the cart, an accident happened which nearly led to their discovery. The Frenchmen all being at the back of the cart, the driver lost the balance, when he was putting in the horse, and the cart fell backwards, which caused the Frenchmen to scream violently; but it is supposed the patrolle had gone too far to hear the noise. Webb was apprehended, and examined before a magistrate in Kent, but he discharged him. However, afterwards, the magistrate meeting with Webb in Maidstone, where he was attending the assize on a similar charge, he took him into custody.

29. *The late Dowager Countess Stanhope.*—Her ladyship's will, which has been proved in Doctors' Commons, is in these words, viz.

“Ovenden, 11th Feb. 1805.

“This is the last will and testament of me, Grisel, dowager countess Stanhope, written with my own hand. After payment of all my lawful debts, I give and bequeath all I am possessed of at my death to my dearly beloved son, Charles earl Stanhope, from my approbation of his private and public conduct; and I appoint him my executor. If I die at Ovenden, I wish to be very privately buried

in the family vault in Chevening church.

“Witness my hand, this eleventh day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and five.

“G. STANHOPE.”

There are two codicils to the will, both dated in the year 1808, the first of which contains the following clause, namely,

“I, Grisel, countess dowager Stanhope, having written, in my own hand, on several books which I have given to my dear son, the words, ‘For Chevening Library,’ I do hereby will and desire that all such books shall belong to my said son only, as I am much dissatisfied with the conduct of my grandson, Philip Henry (lord Mahon) with respect to my most honest, most worthy, and most dearly beloved husband.”

By this, and the second codicil, sundry legacies are left to several of her ladyship's servants, to her son's steward, and to the poor of Chevening village, who have resided there twenty years, or upwards.

Amongst her ladyship's papers, a remarkable manuscript, written in her own hand, was found, which contains the following prayer to the Almighty, composed by her husband, the late Philip earl Stanhope, which exhibits not only a religious zeal the most fervent, but also a high degree of sublime patriotic devotion.

Copy of my dear lord's prayer, from the original in his own handwriting:—

“O Almighty and everlasting God, the all-wise and all-righteous ruler of mankind, vouchsafe to grant

grant the prayer of thine unworthy servant, that, if in the course of thine inscrutable and adorable providence, I can contribute, even by the sacrifice of my life, or fortune, or character, to the preservation of my native country, from those heavy calamities and distresses which to us short-sighted creatures have appeared impending over it (and wherewith at this time our enemies threaten us), as also to the reformation of manners, and the advancement of genuine undissembled virtue, by means whereof thy gracious favour may be regained, and public peace and happiness procured, I may always in that case be willing, and, when strengthened by thy divine assistance, able to surrender for those desirable ends, every blessing and comfort of life, and life itself, into thy most bountiful hands, from whom I have received them all."

30. The Derby assizes were attended by great crowds of persons. One of the most dangerous gangs of nightly depredators that has infested England for many years has been broken up. They were formed by one John England, who resided at a little stone-house, the first on the right hand on entering Derby, from Nottingham. This gang was wholly made up of deserters, with the exception of England, who, as a brewer, labourer, and petty huckster, used every art for the purpose of finding a cover for the rest. He never went out himself with his comrades to plunder, but always pointed out the object; and his concubine (wife of one Matthew Bush, of Wessington, who was principal witness against one of the depredators on these trials, and who was

attempted to be seized as a deserter as he entered the hall), provided them with caps, masks, and other things necessary for disguise. He used to have a share of the plunder; but at length he outwitted himself. Three of these depredators; James Tomlinson, Perceval Cook, and John England, were put to the bar, charged with entering a dwelling-house, at midnight, on the 23rd of December, and robbing Mr. Hunt, at Ockbrook Mill, of thirty-five one-pound notes, and several other articles. The prisoners were found guilty. Cook and Tomlinson were then convicted on another indictment, of the robbery of the house of Mr. Brentneal, at Lock-grange.

31. — Wyatt, of Fowey, was tried at Launceston assizes, for the murder and robbery of Isaiah Falk Valentine. The prisoner kept a public-house in Dock, called the Jolly Bacchus, from whence he removed in November last to the Rose and Crown, at Fowey. The deceased, a person of the Jewish persuasion, was in habits of intimacy with the prisoner. About the 16th of November, two letters were addressed to Valentine (then in Dock) by the prisoner, desiring him to come down to Fowey, where he (the prisoner) had some buttons, or guineas, to dispose of. Relying on this statement, Valentine accordingly went down on the 19th of the same month; but on his arrival, instead of introducing Valentine, as he had proposed, to the persons whom he had stated as dealing in coin, the prisoner contrived to amuse and deceive him, in various ways, until Monday evening, the 25th of November, when,

when, under the pretence of taking him (Valentine) to captain Best, he led him to a place or quay called the Broad Slip, in Fowey, and pushed him into the water, where he first suffocated, and then robbed him of 260*l.*, which he afterwards deposited in a heap of dung on his own premises. No doubt whatever could be entertained of the prisoner's guilt, from a long but strong train of circumstantial evidence; and after a trial of eleven hours continuance, on Thursday last, he was found guilty of felony and murder, and sentenced to be hung at Launceston.

On Saturday morning last, soon after eight o'clock, Julien Dubois and Guillaume Beury were taken from Winchester gaol to the usual place of execution, and after some time spent in prayer, were launched into eternity. On the morning of the execution, the officers of the prison went to their cells soon after five o'clock, and found the prisoners in a lifeless state, and the floor covered with blood. The surgeon of the prison was immediately sent for, the effusion of blood stopped, and themselves sufficiently recovered to attend the exhortations of the priest, who represented to them the great sin they had committed in attempting their own lives; and they expressed their contrition for it. They effected their purpose by means of a short piece of glass, with which they made an incision in their arms, and enlarged the orifice with an old rusty nail, sharpened; which they had concealed about their wooden shoes. They had expressed a wish to be shot instead of hanged, as a death more agreeable to a soldier; but being in-

formed that could not be done, they appeared resigned. Beury, considering that he should effectually destroy himself, had left a written paper in his room, stating, that when a valiant Frenchman was sentenced to die by the common executioner, rather than disgrace himself, his family, and his country, by such an ignominious end, he preferred dying by his own hands. At the place of execution, and on receiving sentence of death, Beury exclaimed, *Vive l'Empereur!* After their bodies had hung the usual time, they were taken down, and buried in the Catholic burial ground.

APRIL.

Kingston, April 1.—Adam Lee, Thomas Lee, and Eleanor his wife, were indicted for a highway robbery, by stopping Elizabeth Collier on the 21st of October last, and forcibly taking from her her clothes, pockets, money, &c.

The prisoners were three gipsies, and the case excited a considerable degree of interest, on account of the cruel manner in which the prosecutrix had been treated.

Elizabeth Collier, when called, was in a very languid and debilitated state, from the ill-usage she had received. She stated, that she lived, in October last, at Horsham, in this county, with a Mr. Giles. On the morning of the 21st of October, she was sent to Walton, by her mistress; and on her return home she saw the three prisoners. The woman gipsy asked her if she would have her fortune told—she replied, no, she knew her fortune very well. Immediately

ately the prisoner, Thomas Lee, came up to her, and caught her by putting his arm round her neck. The other came up, and they dragged her towards the park, paling of sir John Frederick's park. While the men were dragging her, the woman kicked her several times. They then loosened a paling from the park, and dragged her through the aperture into the old park. Here they abused her very much by beating her violently. She fainted away; and as she recovered, she found that they had stripped off her gown, pockets, petticoat, and left her almost naked. She made a noise, but they were not gone; and they told her if she made any more noise they would murder her. She then described the dress of the persons of all the three. She said that Thomas Lee, the taller gipsy, had more hair and whiskers. They were taken the next day, and she recognized them again, except that the whiskers of Thomas Lee had been shaved off.

Another witness proved that she passed the same place shortly before, and she saw the three prisoners near the spot, which the prosecutrix had described as the same of the robbery.

Foy, the officer, stated, that when Thomas Lee was taken in custody, he appeared as if his whiskers had been lately cut off, as that part of his cheek seemed much lighter in colour than the rest of his face. But with respect to Adam Lee, he did not take him into custody, but took his word for his appearance at the office. The prisoner did appear on the day, but the girl not being there that day to identify him, he was

again let go at large, on a promise to appear on the following Wednesday, which he did, and appeared to answer the charge.

This was all the evidence on the part of the prosecution, the case resting on the correctness of the prosecutrix as to the identity of the prisoners.

For the prisoners an *alibi* was set up, to support which a great number of witnesses were called; the general outline of which was, that Thomas Lee and his wife were in their hut, at Brixton Causeway, on the day of the robbery, and for several days preceding. Some of the witnesses had not seen them so near the time as to be inconsistent with the fact of their having been to the distance of 12 miles, the place of the robbery; but others spoke with more certainty as to seeing them at near nine o'clock, the time of the robbery.

Several witnesses also said they saw no alteration in the appearance of Thomas Lee's face, nor did it appear to them that he had cut off any whiskers or hair.

With respect to Adam Lee, some witnesses stated, that they saw him near four on the day; but, on cross-examination, they did not seem to have fixed the day by any certain reference.

The learned judge told the jury, that this was a case of great nicety, and begged their particular attention to the evidence, observing, that it merely depended on the credit they should give to the prosecutrix. He then detailed the whole, most minutely observing upon the bearing of every part of it; and said, it was for them to determine between the contradictory testimony.

The

The jury found the prisoners all guilty.

A gardener at Glasgow practises a mode of destroying caterpillars, which he discovered by accident. A piece of woollen rag had been blown by the wind into a currant bush; and when taken out was found covered by the leaf-devouring insects. He immediately placed pieces of woollen cloth in every bush in his garden, and found next day that the caterpillars had universally taken to them for shelter. In this way he destroys many thousands every morning.

4. On this morning, between three and four o'clock, the Newry Fly coach was stopped by a strong band of robbers, who, without any intimation, fired into the coach, but without injuring any of the passengers. They proceeded to hand out those in the coach, one by one, and with the most dreadful imprecations, made them deliver up all they possessed. There were two ladies, Mrs. Hamilton and daughter, whom the robbers obliged to kneel down in the road, declaring they would shoot them instantly; one of the gang, however, interfered, and even declared he would not allow their baggage to be touched. However, the captain of the banditti ordered every thing to be carried off. Money, watches, trinkets, clothes, every particle was plundered. The rev. Mr. Beresford was in the coach, and is said to have lost 200*l.*; another gentleman lost 600*l.* and it is thought that the villains carried off with them, altogether, more than 2,000*l.* in cash and property.

Accounts from Carlisle state, that on Saturday strong symptoms

of insubordination were manifested by the lower orders of the people, but no serious mischief ensued. On Monday, the populace, to the amount of about 3,000, went to Sandsfield (Port Carlisle), with an intention of unshipping several cargoes of corn and potatoes, that were destined to go coastways; but before they had accomplished their purpose, they were checked by the arrival of the military and several magistrates. The populace appeared perfectly satisfied with the assurances of the magistrates, who are said to have promised to use every exertion to prevent forestalling. All terminated quietly at Sandsfield, except that some of the magistrates and officers were assailed in the suburbs on their return, by women and boys, with a few stones. The soldiers were marched up to the market-place, and followed by an immense concourse of people: many, no doubt, attracted by curiosity. Some of the officers were hissed and hooted at on their retiring, when they suddenly wheeled, drew their swords, and ran to their men, who were still under arms, and ordered them to clear away the populace, by which many were wounded. The mob, as if momentarily appalled, did not farther incommode them, and the officers went to mess, leaving the soldiers under arms. After the lapse of a few minutes, the populace assembled in great numbers before the mess-room, broke the windows, and threatened vengeance to the officers. On this the Riot Act was read. Some rounds, it is stated, were afterwards fired, by which a woman was killed, and several men wounded; and most of the houses

houses in the market-place exhibited some mark of the firing.

6. Thursday last, a passenger in a stage-coach, which runs daily from Chichester to Brighton, was seized, near Shoreham, with a violent fit of insanity, and bit a lady who was in the coach with him in a most shocking manner, about the face and arms. The coachman and outside passengers, hearing her screams, got down, and with much difficulty rescued her from the jaws of the maniac. Two gentlemen then got in the inside, and pinioning his arms, prevented him from doing further mischief. On the arrival of the coach in Brighton, he was lodged in the poor-house.

6. The much-talked-of baron Geramb, who has for a year or two past made so conspicuous a figure in this metropolis, is, at last, ordered out of the country. This singular person ushered himself into public notice in London, by publishing a most inflated and ridiculous letter, which he dedicated to the earl of Moira; in which he described himself as an Hungarian baron, who had headed a corps of volunteers in the cause of Austria against Buonaparté; and stated, that after the peace he went to Spain, to give the benefit of his courage and profound military experience to the oppressed patriots of the Peninsula. He accompanied this production with every other mode of obtaining notoriety, — such as filling print-shop windows with three or four different engravings of his person, which few fools bought, in various costumes: a star, a death's head and cross-bones, and other terrific emblems, adorned the person of the baron. No-

body has walked the public streets for some time past, who does not know this redoubtable nobleman. Wherever notoriety could be acquired, there was the baron Geramb. At the funeral of the lamented duke of Albuquerque, he exhibited himself in all the parade of grief, in a jet black uniform. Where money alone could not gain admittance, the magnificent exterior of this seeming magnate of Hungary was sure of procuring an introduction. At the opera, at the theatres, and the park, his furred mantle and resplendant stars were seldom missed. When that wonderful master of the histrionic art, Mr. Coates, played, or rather attempted to play, Lothario, last winter, at the Hay-market, the Hungarian baron sat with indescribable dignity in the stage-box, and appeared the patron of the absurdities of the night, consoling the white-plumed Lothario with his nods, and bows, and cheers, for all the coarse and severe, but justly merited, raillery which was unsparingly dealt out to him from the pit and galleries. But the baron was formed to embellish a court as well as to dignify a playhouse. He was frequent in his inquiries after the health of the British sovereign at St. James's; and appeared with more than usual splendor at the celebrated *fête* of the Prince Regent at Carlton-house. The fascinations of that scene of courtly festivity and princely elegance became the subject of the baron's pen; and he accordingly published a letter to "Sophia," describing in the most romantic language, all the splendid objects of the night, and the feelings with which his chivalrous mind

mind was impressed. What the baron has been doing since we cannot exactly say, but he has done enough to get himself sent out of the country. It is said that he alleges he had proposed to engage 24,000 Croat troops in the service of England, a proposal which he pretends to have considered as favourably received by our ministers abroad, because they (Mr. Bathurst, general Oakes, and Mr. Henry Wellesley, to whom he appeals) did not hesitate granting him passports, to enable him to come to England, to submit his plan; and for this service his charges were—Journey from London to Cadiz, 250*l.*; establishment in London, 22 months, at 200*l.* per month, 4,400*l.*; return to Hungary, 700*l.*—total 5,350*l.* The baron, it seems, while the officers were besieging his castle, told them he had two hundred pounds of gunpowder in his house, and, if they persevered, he would blow up himself and that together; but finding them not intimidated, he surrendered. The baron, it is reported, has had uncommon success in certain gaming-houses. He is now at Harwich, on his way to the continent. He is said to be a German Jew, who having married the widow of an Hungarian baron, assumed the title by which he has passed.

7. A singular circumstance is stated in the case of Wyatt, of Fowey, convicted of the murder of Valentine, the Jew. The prisoner was brought up to receive sentence on Thursday, and Mr. Justice Chambre, supposing it to be Friday, sentenced him to be executed on the Monday. The act of parliament enacts, that persons convicted of murder shall be executed

within 48 hours after their conviction; they are therefore generally tried on the Friday, in order that they may have the benefit of Sunday, which is a *dies non*. The sentence, however, not being conformable to law, as it allowed a longer period than 48 hours between the conviction and execution, the prisoner was brought up again on Friday, and sentenced to be executed on Saturday. The execution was respited till the 1st of May, and the opinion of the judges is to be taken respecting the legality of the sentence.

8. *King's Bench Court*.—An action was brought by an upholsterer in Sloane-square, against a gentleman of fortune, who married a sister of lord Pomfret, and resided in Suffolk, to recover the sum of 554*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* disputed as a surcharge upon the bill for furnishing the defendant's house. The amount of the whole bill was 2,404*l.* which had been reduced by payments on account to 1,354*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*; and 800*l.* more having been paid into court. The principal debateable article was the charge of 700*l.* for a bed, which, according to the statement of Mr. Garrow for the plaintiff, was made in the most expensive manner, after a drawing supported and ornamented with griffins, eagles, cherubim and doves, a gold sun with beaming rays at the head of it, and the silk manufactured according to the defendant's own pattern. Mr. Garrow stated the profits which accrued to the plaintiff upon this bed to be little more than 100*l.* and that the plaintiff was anxious, for the sake of his reputation, for a verdict, upon the evidence of the upholsterers whom he should call, and who would speak to the fairness of the

the charges. The attorney-general, for the defendant, offered to refer the case to any person, not an upholsterer; but the plaintiff preferred to go on, and after he had proved the delivery of the various articles in his bill, lord Ellenborough asked one of the witnesses what was the highest price at which his master had ever before provided a bed; and upon being answered 200*l.* his lordship said that it became tradesmen to intimate the probable expense of such an article as this to their customers, and to take their sane judgment upon the manufactory of it. Did the witness ever know any other person, who was suffered to go at large, purchasing such a bed? The witness replied, he did not.

Mr. Garrow said, that he should be able to prove that the defendant saw the drawings of this bed, and was furnished with an estimate of its expense, nearly to the full value charged.

The Attorney-General said, that if he were driven to a jury, he should rely most strongly upon the ground his lordship had suggested.

Lord Ellenborough said, that tradesmen were in some degree the guardians of our safety, as to orders given them; and this bed was charged at above three times the price of any one which the plaintiff ever sold in his life.

The Attorney-General repeated his readiness to leave the case to any gentleman to say what the plaintiff ought to have, supposing every article was ordered.

Lord Ellenborough never heard of such a bed to be slept upon. There was in the neighbourhood of the place in which the court sat (at the Mansion-house), a bed

which cost 2,000*l.* but that was a public thing, which ought not to govern the bed of any private person.

Mr. Garrow said, that his client had not been, till now, aware that the reference would be binding, and that he would have a verdict for its amount. He was now willing to consent to it; and Mr. Bolland was chosen as the referee.

8. Letter from Manchester.—“As you will, no doubt, hear of various reports of riots and tumults in this town, I think it right to put you in possession of their causes and effects. Every occurrence I shall relate to you passed under my own eye; you may, therefore, most implicitly depend upon the facts.

“On Saturday last an advertisement appeared in the Manchester papers, for the purpose of convening a meeting at the Great Commercial Room over the Exchange, on the Wednesday following, ‘To prepare a dutiful and loyal address to his royal highness the Prince Regent, expressive of the strong assurances of our attachment to his royal highness’s person, and of our ardent zeal for the support of his government.

“This advertisement was signed by about 150 loyal subjects. The consequence was, that an opposition sprung up in order to defeat the object of the meeting, by proposing and carrying a counter-address. The better to ensure success, the opposition caused hand-bills to be distributed, and placards to be posted throughout the town and the country for ten miles round. These being, in general, of an inflammatory tendency, calculated to rouse the passions of the people, it is impossible to conceive the great

and sudden effect they produced on the public mind; nor was it ever dreamed of by even the indiscreet friends of the Prince Regent themselves, until they observed on the day previous to the meeting, the people crowding to town in every direction from the country; and then they were fully aware of the imprudence of their conduct. Alarmed at the threatening aspect of affairs, they held a consultation amongst themselves; and after employing a surveyor to inspect the building in which it was intended the meeting should take place, the committee of the Manchester Exchange communicated officially to the public, that there was something so rotten in the state, or rather in the staircase of the building, that it would be dangerous and unsafe to permit a crowd to assemble in any part of the building.

"This notification was not attended with the desired effect. The people assembled in thousands, by ten o'clock in the morning; and by eleven the rabble had complete possession of the Commercial Rooms both above and below stairs. They did not act as a deliberative body; for without much consideration they commenced breaking the windows of the upper room, out of which they threw the benches, chairs, tables, and, in short, demolished maps, lamps, and every moveable in the room. It was proposed by some of the most desperate to set fire to the furniture, but they did not proceed to this extremity. By this time (twelve o'clock) some thousands of the mob had taken possession of St. Ann's-square. One of the town demagogues mounted a tem-

porary rostrum in the middle of the square, and read aloud the resolutions agreed to at the last Common-hall, every one of which was unanimously re-passed amidst the loudest acclamations. Matters were thus proceeding, when suddenly arriyed from the barracks the regiment of Scotch Greys, and the Cumberland regiment of militia. The Riot act was immediately read, and time allowed for the mob to disperse; and in fifteen minutes afterwards, not ten persons could be found together in this quarter of the town. Never did soldiers perform their duty with more propriety. They were frequently provoked to acts of violence, but conducted themselves, notwithstanding, with great moderation and forbearance towards the rabble. No lives were lost that I have heard of, but several were wounded by the sabre. From twelve o'clock in the day all the shops and warehouses were shut up."

"*Eight o'clock at night.*—I just learn that several of the rioters have been lodged in New Bailey prison. The constables and military are parading the streets. The mob, in small bodies, are still assembled at distant parts of the town, and appear to be refractory."

"*Nine o'clock.*—The night is dark, and it is apprehended some mischief may occur before morning; the inhabitants are mostly afraid of fire, and many will not go to bed. At present, thank God, all is well, and I hope will continue so."

To the above it is pleasing to add, that we have seen a gentleman, who left Manchester, in the mail, at twelve o'clock on Wednesday

nesday night, at which time the town was quiet.

10. A warm debate occurred in the quarterly assembly of the corporation of Dublin on the 10th instant, on a motion for granting the freedom of the city to major O'Donoghue, who acted as captain under colonel Skerrett in the defence of Tariffa. This was strongly opposed on the ground of his being a Papist. An amendment was moved and carried, that the word "thanks" should be substituted for "freedom."—The petition of the board of aldermen, against the popish claims, was adopted by a majority.

11, *Leeds*.—Last Sunday night, about 12 o'clock, a number of armed men, with their faces covered, entered the workshop of Mr. Smith, of Snowgate-head, near Holmfirth, in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield, and broke all his dressing frames and shears. They proceeded from thence to Horn Coat, about a mile distant, entered the dressing-shop of Mr. J. Brook, and not content with breaking his frames and shears, which they entirely destroyed, they broke and demolished his household furniture and all the windows. From thence they proceeded to Reins, near Honley, about three miles farther, where they arrived about two o'clock, and entered the workshop of Mr. James Brook, and broke one frame, which was all he had, and which had been taken down about five weeks. At the earnest entreaty of Mr. Brook, they were prevailed upon not to break his shears.

One case has occurred which has spread alarm through the manufacturing district. On Thursday

night, about twelve o'clock, the extensive cloth manufactory of Mr. J. Foster, of Horbury, near Wakefield, was surrounded by a large body of armed men, who after securing all the approaches to the premises, proceeded to break into that part of the mill appropriated to the dressing of cloth, where they completely destroyed all the shears and frames; the former were not merely snipped, but absolutely broken in pieces. They then demolished all the windows, and, as if actuated by the most diabolical phrenzy, broke into those parts of the premises, against which these depredators do not pretend to have any ground of complaint; the scribbling-mill and weaving-shops, and materially injured the machinery, and wantonly damaged a quantity of warp ready for the loom; destroying not merely the glass of the window, but the frames, which were of cast-iron, the windows of the dye-houses, the counting-house, and even the dwelling-houses contiguous to the work-shop shared the same fate.

At the commencement of these outrages, a detachment from the main body invested the dwelling-house of Mr. Foster's sons; they shivered the door in pieces, and broke the window and frame; and proceeded to the lodging-room of the young men, and demanded the keys of the building, under pain of instant death. They dragged two of them out of bed, and tied them together, making them lie naked upon the floor; the other they compelled to accompany them with the keys. The dwelling-house occupied by the book-keeper was also broken into, and his family treated with brutal violence.

They afterwards set fire to the building, which was extinguished, after their departure, before it communicated to the main body of the building. Having accomplished their object, they assembled in a field, when the leader called over their numbers, to which each answered. Having ascertained that their whole number was there, he said, "The work is done, all is well, disperse," which order was obeyed.

11. *Truro*.—We observed last week some symptoms of commotion among the miners; the first and most pernicious effect of which was, to alarm the farmers and dealers in grain, potatoes, &c. and to check the open sale and free circulation of provisions through the country; and the action and re-action of the two evils heightening each other, till Saturday and Sunday last, the workmen at several of the mines then resolved to stop working till they were supplied. This could not be done at the moment. They assembled in groups of considerable numbers, in the quarter between Redruth and Truro, and then dispersed over the country with their empty sacks, to purchase corn among the farmers.

On Monday, about noon, they began to enter Truro, but not in crowds or riotously. Few of them looked like fathers of families. The far greater part were boys, and no small number of *bal* girls (as the girls are called who work about the mines), and seemed rather to have come from curiosity, having been thrown idle by the stopping of the works. We must do them the justice to say, we could not have conceived so many of them

would quit their work under such circumstances, and do so little mischief. The precautionary measures, and the apprehensions they gave rise to, formed the most serious part of the business. The leading men in most of the populous parishes had already, as we have said, exerted themselves to apply all possible relief.

The next duty of magistracy was to protect property, and preserve the public peace, rather by awing the turbulent, than contending with them. With this view the high sheriff signed an order for the march of a part of the Monmouth and Brecon regiment, from Falmouth to Redruth.

All was quiet to-day at Redruth market; where, however, about 100 of the Welch regiment still continue; the remainder having returned to Falmouth, with the arms of the Stannary artillery regiment, to be lodged in Pendennis castle. A letter received this evening from a respectable friend in Illogan, says, that all the miners are returned to their duty. Two large cargoes of American flour now in Falmouth are expected to be landed there; and several other cargoes are expected from America, besides barley from other parts. The magistrates are doing all in their power to relieve them, and to punish the ringleaders in any further disorders.

12. On Sunday morning the village of Hankelow, near Nantwich, was alarmed by a report, that George Morrey, farmer, had been murdered during the preceding night having been found with his brains dashed out, and his throat cut from ear to ear! It was supposed that the crime had been perpetrated

perpetrated by some villains, who had entered his house for plunder; and his wife affected complete ignorance of the awful transaction. Traces of blood from the bed of the deceased were found. On examining the servant-man, blood was found on his shirt. An officer was sent for, and the man taken into custody. When the constable was taking him to a magistrate, he said "Well, I suppose I must be hanged;" and on being pressed for his meaning, confessed, that the murder of his master was determined upon between his mistress and himself; and stated, that he had been urged to the horrid deed by his mistress, who wanted him to marry her. The constable unlocked the hand-cuffs with which he had locked himself to the prisoner, fastened the latter by the same instruments to an assistant, and ran back to take the wife. When he entered the house, he told her the confession of the servant, and bid her prepare to accompany him. She covered her face with her apron, drew a razor from her breast, and ran it across her throat, making a deep incision. A surgeon sewed up the wound, which is not considered dangerous. The young man is about 19 years of age, the woman 40.

The following confession discloses a scene of almost unparalleled horror:—

Voluntary Confession of J. Lomas, taken before Faithful Thomas, one of his Majesty's Coroners for the County of Chester, April 14, 1812.—Stateth—That his mistress, Edith Morrey, set him on to murder his master, and he was to have all he had. She told him to go to a public-house, in Hanke-

low, on Saturday afternoon, the 11th of April, to get some drink, and she would get things ready to kill him. His master was gone to Audlem, and she told him (J. Lomas) that he must not go to bed. He came home about 12 o'clock; and as soon as his master was gone to bed and asleep, his mistress came up to his room. He was asleep; she awoke him, and told him his master was fast asleep, and he must come and kill him. He refused; she went down stairs, and afterwards came up again, and went down again, and he followed her. She had got the axe ready, and gave it into his hand. He said it would be found out, and they should be sure to be hanged. She said she would see him safe, and swear he was fast asleep in bed, and would send the servant-girl to call him up. He (Lomas) said his master would awake before he reached the bed, and she said she would go in first, and put up her hand if he was fast asleep, for him to come in and kill him. She put her hand up two or three times, and then said he must come in. He (Lomas) then went in, and his mistress held the candle, while he struck his master three times with the axe on his head. He struck him the first time over his temple. After he had struck him three times, he heard the servant-wench, who slept in the next room, get upon the floor, and he said the servant-woman was coming; on which his mistress wetted her finger and thumb, and put the candle out. He (Lomas) ran away towards the door, and his master was shouting, "Oh Lord!" His mistress turned him back again, and said he must

go again, as he had not killed him; she said he must kill him. Then he went again and struck him in the dark three or four times, with the axe; he thinks he only hit him once with the head of it, and then he ran out of the parlour. His mistress met him in the house-place, and opening a sheath, took out a razor, which she put into his hand, saying he must go and kill him out: he must cut his throat. He refused, but she gave him a bit of a push, and said he must go. She then went first, and he followed her with the razor in his hand. She flung the out-door of the house open, and then went into the room where the servant-girl slept, and shut the door after her, and he (Lomas) went into the parlour. His master was coming off the bed backwards, and he touched him, on which his master rose up, and caught at him by the breast, and by his right hand that he had the razor in. He (Lomas) sprung out of his arms, and then laid hold of him by the head, as he was upon his knees, and cut his throat twice. He loosed him and ran, and his master fell to the floor, and he went up stairs and got into bed. After a while, the servant girl, Hannah Evans, came up to him to shout him up. She came and shook him, and he desired her to go down stairs again, and to leave the candle. He had the bloody shirt on, and he did not put his arm out of bed; he was afraid of her seeing it. He then got up, and put his coat on over his bloody shirt. He dried his bloody hands upon his waistcoat: he also put his smock-frock on, and went down stairs. When he came

down stairs, the servant-girl said, somebody had murdered her master, and he was desired to go in and see if he was dead. He went to the parlour door and just peeped in, and said he thought he was.

Leeds, 13.—The following account of the affair at Mr. Cartwright's mill, at Rawfolds, between Cleckheaton and Littleton, may be depended upon as correct:—

About 20 or 30 minutes after twelve o'clock on Saturday night, this gig-mill was attacked by the Luddites, or Snappers; and the windows and door of the mill were assailed by a furious mob, who commenced their attack by the firing of arms and the beating of hammers and hatchets. The guard in the mill instantly repelled the assault by a steady, firm, and well-directed discharge of musketry from within. A regular engagement succeeded, which continued from 15 to 20 minutes, during which time, not fewer than 140 shot were discharged from within. The assailants were foiled in their attempt to force the windows or doors, and did no other damage than break the glass windows of the mill. The deluded mob did not escape unhurt. Two of the unhappy men were left wounded upon the spot, and there is great reason to believe that several more received the contents of the defenders' muskets, as traces of blood have been observed. The two wounded men were put under the care of surgeons as soon as could be done; one of them, John Booth, a tinner's apprentice, at Huddersfield, died after having his leg amputated. Samuel Hartley, a cropper, of Huddersfield, who worked

worked with one Webb, or Webster, at the same place (and formerly with Mr. Cartwright at Halifax), was shot through the breast; he died yesterday afternoon.

From the direction of the shot, it is conjectured that he received his wound in the act of firing on the mill, or in an attitude similar to that of firing a musket. Several hammers, masks, and a pick-lock key were left upon the premises. Both the men died without making any confession of their accomplices, but several must have been so wounded as to lead to the knowledge of them.

Letters received yesterday state, that since the resistance made by Mr. Cartwright and his assistants, the rioters have not ventured to appear in great numbers in that neighbourhood. Of the deluded wretches concerned in that attack, two more have since died of the wounds they received on that occasion; which makes the number of lives lost four. To prevent the recurrence of similar dangers, the military no longer waited for tumultuous assemblings, but went about, dispersing the disturbers wherever they found them meeting together in small numbers.

The town of Macclesfield was on this day the scene of an alarming riot, apparently originating from the high price of provisions. A disorderly mob of colliers, carters, and others from the neighbourhood, assembling in the fields, entered the town, and began destroying the windows and furniture of the houses of a number of shopkeepers. As the efforts of the magistrates to disperse them proved ineffectual, it was found necessary to call in the assistance of a party of

the Cumberland militia, and of the Macclesfield volunteer cavalry, who, after much skirmishing, succeeded in entirely clearing the town, and apprehending some of the ringleaders. Several casualties occurred on the occasion, but no lives were lost.

13. *Bristol.*—At Bristol some disturbances took place the last market day, on account of the dearth of provisions. Potatoes had been on the rise for some time previous; and the farmers who had several waggon loads at the market, were attempting to advance their price, when a mob assembled, and threatened them with their vengeance. Some of the respectable inhabitants of the town in consequence interfered, and endeavoured to appease the mob by promising to prevail on the farmers to sell the potatoes at the price of the previous market day. In this they were unsuccessful; and the consequence was, that the mob seized the provisions in spite of every opposition, and either destroyed or carried away the whole.

13. Between four and five o'clock on this morning the Highgate Tunnel fell in. The labour of several months was thus in a few moments converted into a heap of ruins. Some of the workmen, who were coming to resume their daily labour, describe the noise that preceded it like that of distant thunder. It was the crown arch, near Hornsey-lane, that first gave way; and the lane, in consequence, fell some feet deep, and instantly became impassable. The houses in the vicinity felt the fall like the shock of an earthquake. The number of persons whom the fineness of the weather attracted on Sunday,

Sunday, to inspect the works, was not less than 800.

Sheffield, 14.—At 12 o'clock to-day, about 40 or 50 poor men (who are employed in preparing a piece of land for a new burying-ground) came marching in wooden clogs into the potatoe market, where their numbers being much increased, they began to throw the potatoes in every direction, breaking the windows all round the market-place, and driving the farmers and others from the market. They then proceeded to break open the potatoe-cellars, which were soon emptied of their contents. One part of the mob made up High-street to Mr. Woollin's flour-warehouse, where they broke a few squares of glass, but did no other damage. The greater part of the people then rushed to the local militia store-room, burst it open, and took from 6 to 800 stand of arms, which they broke in pieces. The military now arrived, and preserved the remainder. The volunteer cavalry were called together, and the local militia drum's beat to arms under a very strong guard. Many thousands of people are collected. The head-quarters are at the Tontine, with a number of cannon planted before the house. The soldiers have taken several of the ring-leaders into custody; the shops are all shut in; the Riot act has been read three times, but all to no purpose.

Two post-chaises with rioters are gone for York Castle, guarded by cavalry and two field-pieces. Artillerymen have just passed, to guard the ammunition.

Extract of a letter from Mrs. Goodair at Stockport, to her husband in town :—

*" Bulkeley Arms, Stockport,
April 14th, 1812.*

" We had been for some days under great apprehension of the mob. This morning, about nine o'clock, the people began to assemble in considerable numbers. They halted at our large gates (at Edgeley), and remained there for nearly an hour, calling to us at intervals to open our windows, and throwing stones in order to compel us to comply with their wishes. Finding neither of any avail, they proceeded towards this town, their numbers increasing as they proceeded along. Instead of entering by the usual road, they visited several houses and factories, where they broke all before them. They then returned to Edgeley, in number about 3,000. On perceiving them from our cottage coming down the road, I assembled the children and nurse in the parlour, and fastened the windows and doors; the garden-er presently rushed into the room, and conjured us to fly that moment, if we wished to save our lives. It was with difficulty I could speak, but each snatching up a child, we escaped at the great gate just in time to avoid the rabble. We proceeded to Mr. Sykes's, but before we reached our destination we saw our cottage enveloped in flames. Every thing, I have since learnt, was consumed by the fire, and nothing left but the shell. The mob next proceeded to the factory, where they broke the windows, destroyed the looms, and cut all the work which was in progress; and having finished this mischief, they repeated the three cheers which they gave on seeing the flames first burst from our dwelling. Their cry was, ' Now for

for Sykes's ;" but before they could accomplish their wicked purpose on our friend, some military arrived, accompanied by Mr. Turner, whose exertions have been indefatigable. He had been much distressed on seeing our house in flames, and had seen nobody to inform him of our escape. The females of Mr. Sykes's family are gone to Manchester for security, whilst we have taken refuge here. The post-chaise in which we came was escorted by four Scotch Greys. The rioters were headed by two men, dressed in women's clothes, who were called general Lud's wives. We are again left without apparel, but such as the kindness of our friends supplies. Mr. Sykes has been trying to get more soldiers at Edgeley, for the rioters appear worse than ever. Marsland and other families have taken shelter at Manchester. Mr. Garside, who endeavoured to protect our property, and even ventured to reproach the mob for their conduct, has been severely beaten and bruised.

"It is now nine o'clock at night, and I learn the mob are more outrageous than ever at Edgeley. Fresh soldiers have been just sent there. Another troop of horse is expected to-night."

15. On Wednesday evening an extraordinary investigation took place at Bow-street. Croker, the officer, was passing along the Hampstead-road; he observed at a short distance before him two men on a wall, and directly after saw the tallest of them, a stout man, about six feet high, hanging by his neck from a lamp-post attached to the wall, being that instant tied up and turned off by the short man. This unexpected and extraordinary sight

astonished the officer; he made up to the spot with all speed, and just after he arrived there, the tall man, who had been hanged, fell to the ground, the handkerchief with which he had been suspended having given way. Croker produced his staff, said he was an officer, and demanded to know of the other man the cause of such conduct; in the mean time, the man who had been hanged recovered, got up, and on Croker's interfering, gave him a violent blow on his nose, which nearly knocked him backward. The short man was endeavouring to make off; however, the officer procured assistance, and both were brought to the office, when the account they gave was, that they worked on canals. They had been together on Wednesday afternoon, tossed up for money, and afterwards for their clothes; the tall man who was hanged won the other's jacket, trowsers, and shoes; they then tossed up which should hang the other, and the short one won the toss. They got upon the wall, the one to submit, and the other to hang him on the lamp-iron. They both agreed in this statement. The tall one, who had been hanged, said, if he had won the toss, he would have hanged the other. He said, he then felt the effects upon his neck of his hanging, and his eyes were so much swelled that he saw double. The magistrates expressed their horror and disgust; and ordered the man who had been hanged to find bail for the violent and unjustifiable assault upon the officer, and the short one for hanging the other. Not having bail, they were committed to Bridewell for trial.

16. *Stockport*.—The rioters have continued their depredations on the factories. The town in consequence had been placarded, begging the people to desist from outrages; and that no means should be left untried to reduce the price of provisions by the next market day. The rioters were not limited to the weavers alone, the lower classes of mechanics in general were intermixed with them. On Wednesday morning, upwards of 2,000 of them assembled on Cheadle Heath, to plan their measures for the day. They proceeded to major Parker's, and broke every window in the house. This gentleman had nothing to do with the weaving trade; and it could not be supposed he was in any respect obnoxious to their vengeance. Information had been conveyed to them that Mr. Goodair's gardener had been the means of saving the lives of his mistress and children, by informing them of the danger with which they were threatened; the consequence was, that they sought his life. He took refuge at a farm-house, where he remained secreted until the arrival of a party of horse to escort him out of their reach. It appears that about thirty of the Scotch Greys arrived in time to save several articles of furniture in Mr. Goodair's cottage, after it had been set on fire, and also succeeded in securing two of the incendiaries.

19. *Carlisle*.—On Friday night, a body of about 300 men and women, the men armed with guns and pitchforks, proceeded to Dals-ton, about four miles from Carlisle, and broke open the warehouses of Messrs. Richardson and Dugdale, and carried away hams, bacon, and flour, to the amount of 500*l*. The

military immediately marched to disperse the rioters, and succeeded in taking into custody about forty, chiefly girls. The plan of the rioters appears to have been organised, as they had scouts stationed to watch the movements of the military; for long before the soldiers could reach the place of destination, the ringleaders, with the greatest part of their associates, had decamped with their booty through the fields, and it is believed, lodged it safely in their homes. The horse are at present patrolling the streets, and the 55th regiment are under arms.

20. The last letters from Sheffield state, that the town was perfectly tranquil on Thursday afternoon. Huddersfield was also in a state of quiet. In the neighbourhood of Stockport, unfortunately a spirit of turbulence continued. A letter, dated on Thursday evening, says, they had been tolerably quiet all day, but had received alarming accounts from the country. The weavers still assembled in great numbers, and proceeded in bodies to the houses of gentlemen and farmers, from whom they extorted money and victuals. Many carried arms openly. Dr. Mitchel's house was attacked on Wednesday night, and several bullets fired at him without any effect. Letters of the same date represent the meeting of the Luddites, the day before, on Cheadle Heath, to have been held, not merely with a view to the outrages which immediately ensued, but also for the purpose of arranging future operations on a larger scale. They were assembled by a party of weavers, the majority of whom had been discarded for misconduct. Several harangued the mob,

mob, and induced them, it is said, to elect a body of delegates to hold "a second congress." They spoke of sending deputations to other manufacturing districts; and in the mean time, until the strength of their friends could be ascertained, they counselled their auditors to avoid contests with the military, and to confine themselves to nocturnal depredations. It is stated, that at this meeting, which they denominated their "First Congress," they determined upon an immediate attack of the manufactory of Messrs. Bury and Co. but were prevented in consequence of its being guarded by soldiers.

20. *Manchester*.—The works of Messrs. Daniel Burton and sons, at Middleton, where machinery is used in great perfection in printing calicoes, were attacked on Saturday by a numerous mob, who commenced their operations by the firing of musketry into the factory. Messrs. Burton being apprised of their intentions, had prepared for defence, and at the first volley five of the misguided rioters unhappily fell: several were wounded. This resolute conduct had the desired effect, and the rioters were dispersed without further mischief.

To-day large mobs having assembled at New Cross and at Knot-mill; they entered the shops and houses, taking meal, flour, and potatoes, with every other article that fell in their way. There is also a mob assembled at Middleton, and in every other direction. The town is now in confusion, not knowing where it will end. At Bolton, and some miles round, the inhabitants are in great alarm.

At Eccles all the shops are shut

up; the passengers and coachman of the Liverpool coach were stoned in passing through. There are two of the coaches filled with soldiers and ammunition, sent off to Middleton, there not being a sufficient number of military to dispel the mob.

21. A shocking outrage was committed near Ballypatrick. While the family of a farmer there, named Patrick Keefe, were asleep, their dwelling-house was set on fire, and the first communication of the dreadful event was by the falling in of the particles of the burning timber. Keefe had, some time back, gotten iron gratings to his windows, and a strong lock to his door. Awakened by the cry of "Fire" from his wife, they both jumped up, and, in their agitation, lost the few moments that might have saved some of the family in an ineffectual search for the key. Missing this, Keefe recollected a window through which he might pass, and made for it, the burning timbers still falling in upon them; while he was making this effort, his wife ran to bring some of their children from an inner room, but out of which neither she nor they came alive. Of a family of nine persons, either in youth or middle life, within a few minutes, but one was left to relate this horrid story. Keefe was removed to the House of Industry, dreadfully burned. The coroner's inquest found, that eight persons came by their death by the house in which they were being maliciously set on fire by some person or persons unknown. The high sheriff, on going to the House of Industry, found Keefe covered with ulcers, unattended; and no threat, nor entreaty,

entreaty, nothing of reward or punishment, was sufficient to procure from the surrounding savages, a car to convey Keefe to Dublin. The sheriff went for military assistance to the next station, and, on his way, meeting a return carriage from Nine-Mile House, he made use of that to convey the sufferer.

21. *Riots in Yorkshire.*—We have already given the particulars of the attack upon Mr. Cartwright's cloth-mill, at Rawfords, about eight miles from Leeds, and now subjoin the sequel of the narrative of that sanguinary conflict, extracted from the Leeds Mercury of Saturday last:—

On the cessation of the firing, the ears of the guards were assailed with the cries of two unfortunate men, weltering in their blood, and writhing under the torture of mortal wounds:—"For God's sake," cried one of them "shoot me—put me out of my misery!"—"Oh!" cried the other, "help! help!—I know all, and will tell all." On the arrival of a detachment of the Queen's Bays, which took place about an hour after the attack commenced, the men were removed on litters from the field to the Star Inn, at Roberttown, and medical aid was called in with all possible dispatch. One of them proved to be a cropper, named Samuel Hartley, formerly in the employment of Mr. Cartwright; a young unmarried man, about twenty-four years of age, and a private in the Halifax Local Militia, in which regiment Mr. Cartwright is a captain. The other was John Booth, a youth about 19, son of a clergyman in Craven, and apprentice to Mr. Wright, of Hudders-

field, tanner. Hartley had received a shot in his left breast, apparently while making a blow at some part of the mill, which, passing through his body, lodged beneath the skin at the left shoulder; from whence it was extracted with a portion of bone. In this situation he languished till about three on Monday morning, when he expired. Booth's wound was in his leg, which was shattered almost to atoms: it was found necessary to have the leg amputated, but, owing to extreme loss of blood before the surgeons arrived, spasms came on during the operation, and he died about six o'clock on Sunday morning; having previously observed, that if he should recover, "he would never be brought into such a scrape again." On Monday a coroner's inquest returned a verdict of—*justifiable homicide*. None of the wounded men, except Hartley and Booth, have yet been discovered.

On the morning after the engagement, a number of hammers, axes, false keys and picklocks, with two masks, a powder-horn, and a bullet-mould, were found upon the field, which was stained in several places with blood: and it is evident that many others besides those left on the field were wounded, as traces of gore were distinctly marked in almost every direction, and in one place to the distance of four miles. Although the assailants exceeded a hundred, the number opposed to them was very inconsiderable, and of that number one of the military conducted himself in so unsoldierlike a manner, that he was placed in confinement, and waits the issue of a regimental court-martial.

24. A writ of inquiry was executed at the Town-hall, Plymouth, by the special appointment of the Under Sheriff of Devon for ascertaining the damages in an action brought by Mrs. Bentley, wife of corporal Bentley of the Royal Marines, against lieutenant Gibbons, late the commander of the *Alpheia* schooner. The plaintiff was ordered to be fastened to a buoy, where she was left for some time in a most dangerous situation. The jury gave her a verdict for 500*l*.

We learn by letters which were received in town yesterday from Manchester, that the vicinity of that town was become a continued scene of riot and outrage. It was hoped that the death of the men who were killed in the attack on Mr. Burton's factory, on Monday last, would have operated as a salutary warning to the rest of the rioters, and have been the means of deterring them from attempting further mischief; but this was not the case: the loss they had suffered only stimulated them to seek revenge. On the day following (Tuesday), the mob assembled more numerously at Middleton than ever; and notwithstanding the house of Mr. Emanuel Burton, who had conducted the defence of his father's premises the day before, was defended by the military, it was attacked, and ultimately burnt to the ground. The rioters were armed with guns, pick-axes, and scythes. About three o'clock in the afternoon a reinforcement of cavalry was sent from Manchester, who, immediately on their arrival, charged the rioters, and cut down several of them. The old independent corps were to be called

out, and other armed bodies were forming.

Manchester, April 25.—"Since Tuesday we have been more peaceable here than was expected. The formation of a horse patrol well armed, and the activity displayed in making extensive nightly circuits round the town, have been of essential service. In consequence of the proceedings of last Saturday, it was presumed that the farmers would be very sparing of supplies for to-day's market. Printed notices were accordingly circulated in the neighbourhood and country, assuring them, that every protection, both by the civil and military power, would be afforded. The patrol, therefore (about seventy or eighty), assembled at half past five, and in parties, patrolled all the roads leading to the town. There has not been the slightest disturbance hitherto.

26. On Friday afternoon, about four o'clock, a large body of rioters suddenly attacked the weaving factory, belonging to Messrs. Wroe and Duncroft, at West Houghton, about thirteen miles from this town; of which, being unprotected, they soon got possession. They instantly set it on fire, and the whole of the building with its valuable machinery, cambrics, &c. were entirely destroyed. The building being extensive, the conflagration was tremendous. The damage sustained is immense, the factory alone having cost 6,000*l*. The reason assigned for this horrid act is, as at Middleton, 'weaving by steam.' By this dreadful event, two worthy families have sustained a heavy and irreparable injury, and a very considerable number of poor are thrown out of employment.

employment. The rioters appear to level their vengeance against all species of improvement in machinery. Mistaken men!—what would this country have been without such improvements? Not one of the incendiaries are taken, nor was there a soldier in that part of the country.

27. Letters received on Saturday from Manchester, inform us, that Wednesday and Thursday passed over without any particular outrage in that place or the vicinity; but that tranquillity was far from being restored. The rioters continued to hold nocturnal meetings in the fields, devising plans of fresh tumult. The execution done among the rioters at Middleton, on Tuesday, by the military, is stated to have been considerably greater than was at first supposed. A number of dead bodies had been found in the adjoining woods, and, adding those who died of their wounds to the number killed on the spot, it is said that from twenty-five to thirty of the misguided populace became the victims of their own folly and criminality.

27. During the last eight months (says an Austrian journal), not fewer than 5,000 Servian families have emigrated to Hungary,—2,000 from Bosnia, besides great numbers of individuals from Moldavia and Wallachia,—all to escape the ravages of war.

30. Letters from different parts concur in stating, that the great tumults have subsided, but that shocking outrages are committed by small parties of depredators and assassins.

Mr. Cartwright, who so bravely defended his property in Yorkshire,

has been fired at on three distinct occasions, but without doing him the slightest injury.

Mr. Horsefall, a principal manufacturer, was shot in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield by four men who fired at him on Tuesday evening last, from behind a wall, as he was returning from Manchester market.

The Luddites have had the audacity to placard the streets of Nottingham in the night, offering a reward for Mr. Wilson, the mayor, dead or alive. He had committed no other offence than signing the offer of reward of 500*l.* from the corporation of Nottingham, for the discovery of the assassin who shot Mr. Trentham. These infatuated men are said actually to meet in the streets of Nottingham in small parties, in the day time, and triumphantly talk over their nightly depredations.

Every thing was tranquil in Manchester on the 29th ult. The rioters were becoming mere marauders. The local militia had assembled, and the public mind was more at ease.

30. "*Manchester.*—We are all quiet here at present, but are anxious to see what may happen the next two or three days, as the general meeting of the Luddites is said to be fixed for tomorrow, but the place we have yet to learn. The Bolton rioters' committee, or rather the delegates, had planned a secret meeting, at which some important matters were to be discussed. The fact became known to the officers and police, and it was deemed expedient not to prevent it from taking place. The consequence

quence was, that last night the whole assemblage, consisting of twenty-five men, were taken, together with all their correspondence. A man has been apprehended at Eccles, in attempting to seduce the local militia, by offering five guineas bounty, and 15s. per week, to all that would be *twisted in* (the term for swearing in). Many of the delegates are going round the country on the same service."

Accounts which left Manchester after the post, state, that another weaving manufactory had been burnt down; and that a woman who had offered to give evidence against some of the rioters, had been killed while the military were escorting her to a magistrate to make her depositions.

Mr. Horsefall, who was shot from behind a wall by four ruffians, in the vicinity of Huddersfield, died on Thursday night of the wounds he received. A deputation of the trade arrived in town on Saturday, to wait on Mr. Ryder, and to consider of the means for the better security of their persons and property.

It is said to have been ascertained by the magistracy, that a regular organization has commenced in several places, and even oaths of fidelity and secrecy have been administered.

During the last week, not fewer than seven regiments proceeded towards Cheshire and Lancashire.

30. A meeting of magistrates and neighbouring gentry was held last week at Carlisle, which was numerously attended by the townspeople and workmen. Some of the weavers stated, that in consequence of the low price of labour, they were compelled to perform

twice the former quantity of work, and thus nearly double the quantity of goods was manufactured by the same number of hands as otherwise would have been; that they had previously presented a petition to the magistrates for advance of wages; and that, though promises of an advance had, on a recent occurrence, been held out, these promises were no longer regarded. The meeting broke up without doing any thing. A deputation of weavers waited on Mr. Christian with a petition, in which were abstracts from two acts of parliament, asserting the power of the magistrates to regulate the price of manufacturers' labour. Mr. Christian promised them, that as soon as possible, his father, Mr. Curwen, would hold a meeting of the magistrates, when their petition should be duly considered.

30. The Luddites at Nottingham appear to have relinquished their system of frame breaking, only to commit acts of much greater atrocity. Letters from thence, received yesterday, mention the following outrage:—

On Monday night last, about eleven o'clock, Mr. Trentham, of the house of Trentham, Tierney, and Morton, in the weaving trade, was way-laid on his return home by two ruffians. Just as he was about to step up to his door, one of them placed himself before him, and, presenting a pistol, shot him through the left breast: the assassins then made their escape. The report of fire-arms having brought the neighbours to the spot, surgical assistance was immediately procured, and the ball was extracted from the back, a little below the left shoulder. Mr. Trentham being

ing sixty-three years of age, little hope is entertained of his recovery. The corporation of Nottingham have offered a reward of 500*l.* for the discovery of the villains; and it is expected that government, before whom the transaction has been laid, will make a similar offer.

Government sent off yesterday reinforcements to Nottingham, consisting of two rifle companies of the North York.

30. The Queen held a drawing-room at St. James's palace. It being the first which her majesty has held since the king's birth-day in 1810, and there having been no court for the ladies during a lapse of nearly two years, great preparations were made by the higher ranks for their appearance on this occasion. The public splendors of the court were likewise considerably increased on this revival of them, by the invitations of the Prince Regent, which were issued to the number of 400, to a magnificent entertainment given in the evening at Carlton-house, by his royal highness, to her [majesty, the princesses, and the nobility and gentry. The palace of St. James's and the vicinity bore rather the appearance of the celebration of a birth-day, than the holding of a drawing room in the usual manner. Parties of the Life Guards were stationed in the morning at all the avenues, and in the front of the palace, who, with the assistance of the police, preserved great regularity and order in the passing of the carriages and sedans, to and from the palace. At noon, Bond-street, St. James's-street, and Pall-mall, were all in a bustle, thronged with superb carriages, and elegant

equipages, and the windows filled with spectators. All the arrangements resembled those for birth-days; and numbers of tickets were issued from the lord chamberlain's office, for spectators in the anti-rooms, guard-chamber, &c. Her majesty, with the princesses Augusta and Mary, left the queen's house about one o'clock, and alighted at the duke of Cumberland's apartments at St. James's, where they were received by his Royal Highness. Here her majesty and the princesses dressed, the royal jewels having been previously brought thither from the Bank. After partaking of some refreshments in the duke's apartments, they proceeded with a numerous train of attendants through the gallery and the ball-room, and entered the grand council-chamber, where her majesty received the company, and the numerous persons who had the honour of being presented.

The Prince Regent went from Carlton-house to St. James's palace, and appeared in full state, for the first time since the establishment of the regency. The procession of his royal highness consisted of three carriages, drawn by two horses each; within them, his aides-de-camp, pages of honour, &c. The servants wore their state liveries, and new state hats, adorned with blue feathers. Then followed the state coach of his Royal Highness, drawn by six bays in superb red morocco harness, decorated with red ribbands. On the sides of the carriage walked four state helpers. The coachmen and four footmen wore black velvet caps, like those of his majesty's servants. The Prince Regent was habited in military

litary uniform; he was accompanied by the duke of Montrose (master of the horse), and lord John Murray (lord in waiting). The procession was escorted by a party of the life guards, and arrived at St. James's at half past three. Earl Cholmondeley (lord Steward), and the earl of Macclesfield, and other officers of state, waited at the bottom of the grand staircase for the Prince Regent, and conducted his Royal Highness to the grand council-chamber, where his Royal Highness paid his respects to his royal mother. He remained in the drawing-room half an hour. Their royal highnesses the princess of Wales, the duchess of York, the dukes of York, Clarence, Kent, Cumberland, Cambridge, and Sussex, their highnesses the duke of Gloucester, and the princess Sophia of Gloucester, and his serene highness the duke of Brunswick, were also present.

The wife of a respectable farmer, at a village in the neighbourhood of Liverpool, died a few days ago under melancholy circumstances. About two years ago, having had a quarrel with a female servant, the young woman, after leaving the house, propagated a report, that an improper connection had for some time subsisted between her late mistress and a man in the neighbourhood. This rumour reached the ears of the husband, who took it so much to heart that he quitted his home, and never returned till a few weeks since. His wife was so affected by his desertion, and the cause of it, that she fell into a decline, and on her husband's return, was past recovery. She earnestly solicited an interview, which, having obtained.

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she assured him, on the word of a dying person, that she was entirely innocent. He believed her, and a reconciliation took place, but too late, as she died a few days afterwards. The young woman being threatened with a prosecution, confessed her guilt, and attested the innocence of her mistress, and has in consequence been excommunicated in the neighbouring churches.

Description of the eruption of the Souffrier mountain, on Thursday night, the 30th of April, 1812, in the island of St. Vincent.—The Souffrier Mountain, the most northerly of the lofty chain running through the centre of this island, and the highest of the whole, as computed by the most accurate survey that has been taken, had for some time past indicated much disquietude; and from the extraordinary frequency and violence of earthquakes, which are calculated to have exceeded two hundred within the last year, portended some great movement or eruption. The apprehension, however, was not so immediate, as to restrain curiosity, or to prevent repeated visits to the crater, which of late had been more numerous than at any former period, even up to Sunday last, the 26th of April, when some gentlemen ascended it and remained there for some time. Nothing unusual was then remarked, or any external difference observed, except rather a stronger emission of smoke from the interstices of the conical hill, at the bottom of the crater. To those who have not visited this romantic and wonderful spot, a slight description of it, as it lately stood, is previously necessary and indispensable to form any conception of it, and to the better understanding

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derstanding the account which follows; for no one living can expect to see it again in the perfection and beauty in which it was on Sunday, the 26th instant.

About 2,000 feet from the level of the sea (calculating from conjecture), on the south side of the mountain, and rather more than two-thirds of its height, opens a circular chasm, somewhat exceeding half a mile in diameter, and between 4 and 500 feet in depth: exactly in the centre of this capacious bowl, rose a conical hill about 260 or 300 feet in height, and about 200 feet in diameter, richly covered and variegated with shrubs, brushwood, and vines, above half-way up, and for the remainder powdered over with virgin sulphur to the top. From the fissures in the cone and interstices of the rocks, a thin white smoke was constantly emitted, occasionally tinged with a slight blueish flame. The precipitous sides of this magnificent amphitheatre were fringed with various evergreens, and aromatic shrubs, flowers, and many Alpine plants. On the north and south sides of the base of the cone were two pieces of water, one perfectly pure and tasteless, the other strongly impregnated with sulphur and alum. This lonely and beautiful spot was rendered more enchanting by the singularly melodious notes of a bird, an inhabitant of these upper solitudes, and altogether unknown to the other parts of the island: hence principally called, or supposed to be, invisible: though it certainly has been seen, and is a species of the merle.

A century had now elapsed since the last convulsion of the mountain, or since any other elements had

disturbed the serenity of this wilderness than those which are common to the tropical tempest. It apparently slumbered in primeval solitude and tranquillity, and from the luxuriant vegetation and growth of the forest which covered its sides from the base nearly to the summit, seemed to discountenance the fact, and falsify the records of the ancient volcano. Such was the majestic, peaceful Souffrier on April the 27th; but we trod on "*ignem repositum cineridoloso*," and our imaginary safety was soon to be confounded by the sudden danger of devastation. Just as the plantation bells rang twelve at noon on Monday the 27th, an abrupt and dreadful crash from the mountain, with a severe concussion of the earth, and tremulous noise in the air, alarmed all around it. The resurrection of this fiery furnace was proclaimed in a moment by a vast column of thick, black, ropey smoke, like that of an immense glass-house, bursting forth at once, and mounting to the sky, showering down sand, with gritty calcined particles of earth and favillæ mixed, on all below. This driven before the wind towards Wallibon and Morne Ronde, darkened the air like a cataract of rain, and covered the ridges, woods, and cane-pieces with light grey-coloured ashes, resembling snow when slightly covered by dust. As the eruption increased, this continual shower expanded, destroying every appearance of vegetation. At night a very considerable degree of ignition was observed on the lips of the crater; but it is not asserted that there was as yet any visible ascension of flame. The same
awful

awful scene presented itself on Tuesday; the fall of favillæ and calcined pebbles still increasing, and the compact, pitchy column from the crater rising perpendicularly to an immense height, with a noise at intervals like the muttering of distant thunder. On Wednesday the 29th, all these menacing symptoms of horror and combustion still gathered more thick and terrific for miles around the dismal and half-obscured mountain. The prodigious column shot up with quicker motion, dilating as it rose like a balloon. The sun appeared in total eclipse, and shed a meridian twilight over us, that aggravated the wintry gloom of the scene, now completely powdered over with falling particles. It was evident that the crisis was as yet to come—that the burning fluid was struggling for a vent, and labouring to throw off the superincumbent strata and obstructions which suppressed the ignivomous torrent. At night it was manifest that it had greatly disengaged itself from its burthen, by the appearance of fire flashing now and then, flaking above the mouth of the crater.

On Thursday, the memorable 30th of April, the reflection of the rising sun on this majestic body of curling vapour was sublime beyond imagination—any comparison of the Glaciers, of the Andes, or Cordilleras with it, can but feebly convey an idea of the fleecy whiteness and brilliancy of this awful column of intermingled and wreathed smoke and clouds: it afterwards assumed a more sulphureous cast, like what we call thunder-clouds, and in the course of the day a ferruginous and sanguine appear-

ance, with much livelier action in the ascent, a more extensive dilation, as if almost freed from every obstruction. In the afternoon, the noise was incessant, and resembled the approach of thunder still nearer and nearer, with a vibration, that affected the feelings and hearing; as yet there was no convulsive motion, or sensible earthquake. Terror and consternation now seized all beholders. The Charraibs, settled at Morne Ronde, at the foot of the Souffrier, abandoned their houses, with their live stock, and every thing they possessed, and fled precipitately towards town. The negroes became confused, forsook their work, looked up to the mountain, and as it shook, trembled, with the dread of what they could neither understand or describe—the birds fell to the ground, overpowered with showers of favillæ, unable to keep themselves on the wing; the cattle were starving for want of food; as not a blade of grass or a leaf was now to be found: the sea was much discoloured, but in no wise uncommonly agitated; and it is remarkable, that throughout the whole of this violent disturbance of the earth, it continued quite passive, and did not at any time sympathise with the agitation of the land. About four o'clock p. m. the noise became more alarming, and just before sun-set the clouds reflected a bright copper-colour, suffused with fire. Scarcely had the day closed, when the flame burst at length pyramidically from the crater, through the mass of smoke; the rolling of the thunder became more awful and deafening; electric flashes quickly succeeded, attended with loud

claps; and now, indeed, the hurly-burly began. Those only who have witnessed such a sight, can form any idea of the magnificence and variety of the lightning and electric flashes; some forked zig-zag playing across the perpendicular column from the crater—others shooting upwards from the mouth like rockets of the most dazzling lustre—others like shells with their trailing fuses flying in different parabolas, with the most vivid scintillations from the dark sanguine column, which now seemed inflexible and immovable by the wind. Shortly after 7 p. m. the mighty caldron was seen to simmer, and the ebullition of lava to break out on the N. W. side. This, immediately after boiling over the orifice, and flowing a short way, was opposed by the acclivity of a higher point of land, over which it was impelled by the immense tide of liquified fire that drove it on, forming the figure V in grand illumination. Sometimes, when the ebullition slackened, or was insufficient to urge it over the obstructing hill, it recoiled back, like a reflux billow from the rock, and then again rushed forward impelled by fresh supplies, and scaling every obstacle, carrying rocks and woods together, in its course down the slope of the mountain, until it precipitated itself down some vast ravine, concealed from our sight by the intervening ridges of Morne Ronde. Vast globular bodies of fire were seen projected from the fiery furnace, and bursting, fell back into it, or over it, on the surrounding bushes, which were instantly set in flames. About four hours from

the lava boiling over the crater, it reached the sea, as we could observe from the reflection of the fire and the electric flashes attending it. About half-past one, another stream of lava was seen descending to the eastward towards Rabacca. The thundering noise of the mountain, and the vibration of sound that had been so formidable hitherto, now mingled in the sullen monotonous roar of the rolling lava, became so terrible, that dismay was almost turned into despair. At this time the first earthquake was felt: this was followed by showers of cinders, that fell with the hissing noise of hail during two hours. At three o'clock, a rolling on the roofs of the houses indicated a fall of stones, which soon thickened, and at length descended in a rain of intermingled fire, that threatened at once the fate of Pompeii, or Herculaneum. The crackling and coruscations from the crater at this period exceeded all that had yet passed. The eyes were struck with momentary blindness, and the ears stunned with the glomeration of sounds. People sought shelter in cellars, under rocks, or any where, —for every where was nearly the same; and the miserable negroes, flying from their huts, were knocked down, or wounded; and many killed in the open air. Several houses were set on fire. The estates situated in the immediate vicinity seemed doomed to destruction. Had the stones that fell been proportionably heavy to their size, not a living creature could have escaped without death; these having undergone a thorough fusion, they were divested of their natural

natural gravity, and fell almost as light as pumex, though in some places as large as a man's head. This dreadful rain of stones and fire lasted upwards of an hour, and was again succeeded by cinders from three till six o'clock in the morning. Earthquake followed earthquake almost momentarily, or rather the whole of this part of the island was in a state of continued oscillation;—not agitated by shocks, vertical or horizontal; but undulated like water shaken in a bowl.

The break of day, if such it could be called, was truly terrific. Darkness was only visible at eight o'clock, and the birth of May dawned like the day of judgment: a chaotic gloom enveloped the mountain, and an impenetrable haze hung over the sea, with black sluggish clouds of a sulphureous cast. The whole island was covered with favillæ, cinders, scoriæ, and broken masses of volcanic matter. It was not until the afternoon that the muttering noise of the mountain sunk gradually into a solemn yet suspicious silence. Such were the particulars of this sublime and tremendous scene, from commencement to catastrophe.

Of the effects of this eruption the following account is given in a letter from the Speaker of the Assembly of St. Vincent's to the Colonial Agent in London.

"On one estate, called Wallibou, to leeward, and on five more to windward; or, as we speak here, in the Charaib country, the earth is still covered with what I will term ashes, from six to twelve inches; and on one estate, the walls of the boiling-house fell in, as it is

supposed from the effects of an earthquake.

"Excepting the one estate to leeward, and those five to windward, I do not believe the injury has been very great. The ashes have fallen abundantly on two or three others, but, it is hoped, not enough materially to injure the soil; this, however, as well as the effect where it is deeper, must be ascertained by experience. We have no data to judge whether it be a mere caput mortuum, or if it contains the sources of vegetation; if the latter, labour and industry may bring matters about; but, if the former, I do not know what to say. So the rivers which turn the mills on these estates, may resume their courses: but no human wisdom can do more than conjecture on the subject.

"The estates, from the Charaib boundary, and from Wallibou, have not, as I understood, received any injury; the ashes fell indeed to the extent of many miles at sea, for after the great and heavy part was deposited, the lighter particles seem to have been dispersed in all directions throughout the island; it has made a light thin crust about one-fourth or one-eighth of an inch thick, which we consider as doing more good than harm.

"Only one white man and I believe forty or fifty negroes have been lost, and some magass houses, negroe houses, and other buildings took fire, from the ignited stones which were discharged to a considerable distance, and at certain periods in great profusion."

The manner in which distant parts were affected by this awful phenomenon is strikingly described
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in the following article from Barbadoes, dated May 2nd.

“ Yesterday morning at four o'clock, the atmosphere was perfectly clear and light; but at six thick clouds had covered the horizon, from whence issued, in torrents like rain and particles finer than sand, volcanic matter; and at eight it was as totally dark as we ever recollect to have seen the most stormy night. It then became necessary to procure lights, not only in the dwellings of families, but lanterns were obliged to be used in passing from one part of the street to another. On the preceding night, it however seems, that many persons heard sounds like those which follow the discharging of cannon; and some go so far as to say, that they clearly observed the flashes to leeward of us, the same as if vessels were engaged at sea; therefore, as these clouds came from the northward, it is much to be dreaded, that some one of the neighbouring islands has experienced the dismal effects of a volcanic eruption. This awful state of darkness continued until 20 minutes past twelve at noon, when the glimmerings of Heaven's light were gradually perceptible, and about one o'clock it was so far clear as to be compared with that of about seven o'clock in the evening. The eruptive matter, however, still continued, and as was the case during the whole time of its descent, numerous flocks of exotic birds were heard warbling the melancholy note of croaking, as if they were messengers of past, or presagers of future evil. We shall, in common with our fellow-inhabitants, feel extremely anxious

for arrivals from the neighbouring islands: should these fortunately have escaped any convulsion of the earth, this phenomenon will form a subject of much philosophical interest, and learned discussion. To describe the feelings that pervaded the community during this awful period, is impossible—it is far more easy to be conceived.”

MAY.

1. A young German of the name of Rontgen, who left England about a twelvemonth since for Africa, in order to prosecute discoveries in the interior of that country, has, we are sorry to learn, been murdered by the Arabs, before he had proceeded any great distance from Mogadore, where he spent some time perfecting himself in the Arabic language. He was a promising young man, and an enthusiast in the cause in which he was lost, and supposed to understand Arabic better than most who have entered Africa. At an early age he formed the plan of going to that country, and gave up his connexions in Germany, to prosecute his intentions. His father was well known in Europe, and raised himself from obscurity by his talents for mechanics. It is since affirmed in the German papers, that he was not killed, but has recovered of his wounds, and intends proceeding on his travels.

3. A shocking circumstance occurred at Nottingham. Mr. Oldknow, a respectable mercer, in a fit of insanity, took away the lives of two of his children, by nearly severing their heads, and afterwards placing

placing a pistol to his mouth terminated his own existence. The oldest was about seven years of age, and the other only six months.

11. *Assassination of Mr. Perceval.*—About a quarter past five Mr. Perceval was entering the lobby of the House of Commons, where a number of persons were standing, when a man, who had a short time previously placed himself in the recess of the door-way within the lobby, drew out a small pistol, and shot Mr. Perceval in the lower part of the left breast. The ball is supposed to have entered the heart. Mr. Perceval moved forwards a few faltering steps, nearly half way up the lobby, and was in the act of falling, when some persons stepped forward and caught him. He was immediately carried to the room of the Speaker's secretary, to the left of the lobby, by Mr. W Smith, Mr. Bradshaw, and another gentleman. Mr. Lynn, the surgeon, in Parliament-street, was immediately sent for; but on examining the wound, he considered the case utterly hopeless. All that escaped Mr. Perceval's lips previously to falling in the lobby, was "murder," or "murdered." He said no more afterwards. He expired in about ten or twelve minutes after receiving the fatal wound. Several members of both Houses of Parliament went into the room while he was dying: among others, his brother, lord Arden: all of them appeared greatly agitated. There was very little effusion of blood from the wound, externally. His body was subsequently removed into the Speaker's house. Lord Francis Osborne, lord Ossulston,

and some others, were crossing the lobby at the moment of the assassination, and were very near to Mr. Perceval. The deed was perpetrated so suddenly, that the man who fired the pistol was not instantly recognized by those in the lobby; but a person passing at the moment behind Mr. Perceval, seized the pistol (which was a very small one) from the hand of the assassin, who retired towards a bench to the left; he surrendered it without any resistance. Mr. Goodiff, an officer of the house, took hold of him, and asked if he were the villain who shot the minister. He replied, "I am the unhappy man;" but appeared quite undisturbed. It is said, that he added something about the want of redress of grievances from ministers; but if he did say so, it was heard by very few. On searching him, a few pounds were found in his pockets, and some printed papers, copies of which he is said to have previously distributed among members. He was taken to the bar of the House of Commons, and identified as the assassin. Another pistol, similar to that which he had fired, was taken from his pocket in the house. All the doors of the house were then locked, and he was conveyed by the private passage up stairs to two of the apartments called the prison rooms, in the upper story, over the committee rooms. Here he underwent an examination for some time, which was attended by aldermen Combe and Curtis, and by Mr. Read, Mr. Colquhoun, Mr. Fielding, and other magistrates; and several members of the House of Commons, Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Wynne, Mr. Stephen, lord Castlereagh,

tlereagh, Mr. Secretary Ryder, &c. After an examination of various witnesses, among whom were lords Ossulston and Francis Osborne, general Gascoyne, Mr. H. Sumner, the officers of the house, and several strangers, the man was fully committed to Newgate for trial. A hackney-coach was brought to the iron gates in Lower Palace-yard; but the crowd, which was at first composed of decent people, had been gradually swelled by a concourse of pick-pockets and the lower orders, who mounted the coach, and were so exceedingly troublesome and even dangerous, that it was not deemed advisable to send him to Newgate in the manner intended. Repeated shouts of applause were heard from the ignorant or depraved part of the crowd, as if they were hailing some oppressed but innocent victim; some of whom even attempted to open the opposite door of the coach, as if to give the murderer an opportunity of escape. A party of life guards arrived about this time, and formed a semicircle in Lower Palace-yard, by which the mob were kept more at a distance. It was, however, thought more prudent to send him away by another outlet, and so avoid all confusion. He was therefore taken out by the speaker's entrance, and conveyed to Newgate. His name is Bellingham. He has been engaged in mercantile concerns at Liverpool, and was recognised by generals Tarleton and Gascoyne, the members for that place. He is about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches in height, with rather a thin visage, a nose somewhat aquiline, and of genteel appearance. He has been

a good deal about the House of Commons during these few weeks, and dined several times in the coffee-room. He preserved, during the most part of the proceedings, an air perfectly calm, and the appearance of one under no sort of agitation, but who had deliberately and fully made up his mind to the atrocious act he has committed, and the awful consequences that would ensue to himself. He observed to a police officer, after his commitment, that he knew what his crime was, and what its result would be. He had lodgings in New Millman-street, near the Foundling Hospital. His landlady, who is a young widow, with a family, stated, that he had been very serviceable to her in the recovery of a child of her's which had been missing, and that he had taken her yesterday morning to see the European Museum. He used to complain to her of money due to him, which he was wronged of, and without getting which, he must be a ruined man.

Further particulars relative to the Murder of Mr. Perceval.—On the examination of Bellingham on Monday night at the House of Commons, Gen. Gascoyne, Mr. Hume, lord Francis Osborne, Mr. Colborne, and others were examined. The prisoner, on being asked whether he had any thing to say to their depositions, stated, that when general Gascoyne seized him, he held him with so much violence, that he was apprehensive his arm would be broken, and that he then said, "you need not press me, I submit myself to justice."

A bundle of papers, brought from the prisoner's lodgings, were
consigned

consigned to the charge of lord Castlereagh, to be submitted to the privy council.

The witnesses were then bound over to give their evidence before the grand jury, and thereafter at the Old Bailey, in the event of a true bill being found against the prisoner "For the wilful murder of the Right Honourable Spencer Perceval."

The prisoner was asked, what he had to say against the fact with which he was charged, and cautioned by sir John Hippley not to say any thing that would be injurious to himself.

The prisoner spoke to the following effect :—

"I have admitted the fact; I admit the fact, but wish, with permission, to state something in my justification. I have been denied the redress of my grievances by government; I have been ill-treated. They all know who I am, and what I am, through the Secretary of State and Mr. Becket, with whom I have had frequent communications. They knew of this fact six weeks ago, through the magistrates of Bow-street. I was accused most wrongfully by a governor-general in Russia, in a letter from Archangel to Riga, and have sought redress in vain. I am a most unfortunate man, and feel here (placing his hand on his breast) sufficient justification for what I have done."

Lord Castlereagh informed him, that he was not then called on for his defence, but merely for what he had to urge in contradiction to the charge. Any thing he might feel desirous of stating, in extenuation of his crime, he had better reserve for his trial.

The prisoner said, "Since it seems best to you that I should not now explain the causes of my conduct, I will leave it until the day of my trial, when my country will have an opportunity of judging whether I am right or wrong."

Upon being again questioned, he repeated, "I admit the fact;" which admission was accordingly entered upon the record. The Bow-street officers were called in, and the prisoner having been permitted to dress, was handcuffed by Vickery and Adkins. He applied for his money, which having been left in the possession of Mr. Burgess, who had withdrawn, Mr. Whitbread assured him he should have it returned to him in the morning. He also asked whether he should be allowed an attorney and counsel? when Mr. Whitbread signified to him that Mr. Combe would take care that every necessary indulgence should be allowed him, consistent with his situation. In no part of the proceeding did he betray extreme agitation; but at the moment that one of the witnesses said, "I supported Mr. Perceval into the secretary's room, and in a few minutes he died in my arms," the prisoner shed tears, and seemed much affected. The pistol with which the act was perpetrated is a small pocket pistol, about six inches long, the barrel rather better than two inches in length, with the cock on the top, and a stop to the trigger. The calibre is nearly half an inch in diameter, and the barrel very strong. The pistol taken from his breeches pocket was primed, and loaded with one ball.

Before the arrival of the life guards he was re-conducted to the prison-

prison-room, where he found much fault with Vickery, the officer, for having inquired from some female something relative to his private affairs. He calmly said, he knew the consequence of the act he had committed, which he did not consider of a private nature. On Vickery's answering, that he had only spoken in general terms to the female, and she told him she had in her possession a memorandum of 20*l.* due by a Mr. Wilson to him, the prisoner, in the most unconcerned manner, replied, he knew what it was ; it was a bill that he expected would have been paid next day, at half-past nine o'clock. He did not talk at all incoherently, except on the subject of assassination ; respecting that deed, he said, that he expected to be brought before a tribunal where ample justice would be done to him ; and that he expected to be liberated, and ultimately to have his claims satisfied.

He was conveyed to the secretary of state's office for the home department, where he was placed in a room, in which he walked nearly the whole time. On the breaking up of the council he was sent to Newgate. His commitment was signed by Michael Angelo Taylor, Esq. M. P. who accompanied him in the coach to Newgate, where he was double ironed. He has been perfectly calm and collected since his imprisonment. His time yesterday morning was employed in writing a letter to a friend at Liverpool, which consisted of three sides of a quarto sheet of paper, written with apparent correctness ; a space purposely being left for the wafer, so that the letter might be opened without the

writing being defaced. This has been sent to Mr. Ryder's office. He states that he drew the pistol from his right hand breeches pocket. He has made particular inquiry of the keeper as to what direction the ball took. Being asked if there was any other person close to him when he fired, or between him and Mr. Perceval, he replied there was none, or he should have been fearful of firing.

This wretched man is stated to be a native of St. Neot's in Huntingdonshire, and aged 42 years. It is added, that he was brought up in a counting-house in London ; and some years ago went to Archangel, where he lived with a Russian merchant, in whose employment as clerk, he continued three years. Having formed a connexion with a Mr. Borbecker, in the timber line, he returned to England in order to seek a contract for the supply of timber ; and entered into considerable engagements with the merchants of Hull. Ships were in consequence sent out to Archangel to bring home cargoes ; but Mr. Borbecker having meanwhile become a bankrupt, the vessels returned in ballast. Bellingham, who still remained at Hull, was arrested, and thrown into prison, by the disappointed merchants, for the non-fulfilment of the contract ; and during his confinement, or soon afterwards, he wrote a pamphlet with the intent of ridiculing the merchants of Hull. On the recovery of his liberty he proceeded again to Archangel, where he entered into various speculations, which ended in his involving himself in still more numerous difficulties. He was there very troublesome to the government, sending

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to them memorial after memorial, on subjects relative to his private concerns; and he, moreover, generally, conducted himself with so much passion, that at length he was sent to prison, where he remained a considerable time; claiming, in vain, the protection of the British minister, who, indeed, could render him no assistance. The term of his confinement having expired, Bellingham repaired to England full of complaints against the Russian government. He married in London, but took up his abode at Liverpool. He commenced the business of an insurance broker, whilst his wife pursued that of a milliner. He continued at intervals to present memorials to the British government on the subject of his claims; but these were concerns with which government had nothing to do. For the last few weeks he has been in attendance about the House of Commons; and a short time ago he addressed, to several members of the House, a printed statement of his grievances, requesting their interference in his behalf. It is said, that his last application to government on his affairs, was made on Monday morning, when he received a repulsive answer, which is supposed to have confirmed him in his dark and bloody purpose.

Bellingham was brought to his trial, the courts being sitting, on the 15th, when, there being no difficulty in proving the fact, he was, without hesitation, brought in guilty. There was a slight attempt to prove him insane; but except his persuasion that what he had committed was perfectly justifiable, and an apparent expectation that the act would be so considered on

his trial, no other marks of an alienated mind could be adduced.

His execution took place on the 18th before Newgate. He prepared for his fate with great composure by the usual religious exercises, and, during the whole scene manifested an extraordinary degree of firmness and self-possession. He denied that he had any accomplices in the deed (as indeed there could be no suspicion of this kind), and persisted to the very last in refusing to express any contrition for his crime. His behaviour on the whole was such as apparently to render him, in his last moments, rather an object of interest than of detestation. The whole passed without any tumult or accident.

12. *Disturbances in the Country.*

—The rioters have lately, in some parts, entered houses by night, in parties of 20 or 30, for the purpose of procuring arms. Two more attempts at assassination have been made, though happily without success. It is said, that just before these riots broke out, several persons, known to be United Irishmen, arrived in the manufacturing districts from Ireland, for the purpose of binding the rioters together by oaths.

At Leeds, on the 8th of May, the family of colonel Campbell, commanding officer of the Leeds district, was thrown into serious alarm: between 10 and 11 o'clock at night, two men, whose voices were distinctly heard, placed themselves in a plantation behind the colonel's house, at Woodhouse, about a mile from Leeds, and discharged two muskets in the direction of the guard-room, just at the moment when two hussars were entering

entering the court, but the trees intercepted the shots. The sentinels went in pursuit of the offenders, but they escaped under the cover of night. In the absence of the guard, and just as the colonel's son, accompanied by a soldier, was turning the south-east corner of the house, four or five men were observed to collect in front, and one of them discharged another musket, but the shot passed without doing any mischief. Soon after the firing, the colonel, who had been on military duties, drove into the court, and having strengthened the guard, the night passed without further molestation.

At Huddersfield the Luddites were very active in collecting arms last week, and have been too successful. They proceeded to people's houses, in the townships of Almonbury, Wooldale, Farnley, Netherthong, Meltham, Honley, and Marsden, and many other places in the neighbourhood; they entered the houses by about 20 or 30 in a gang, and demanded all the arms in the house, on pain of instant death. By this means they have obtained possession of upwards of 100 stand of arms, and not one night has passed without some arms having been so taken. To check this alarming evil, major Gordon has obtained possession of 200 stand of arms from the inhabitants in the neighbourhood; the military are in this manner daily employed in collecting arms, but they have not yet discovered the depôt of the Luddites.

15: The friends of humanity will be happy to learn from the supplement to the Buenos Ayres Gazette of May 15th, that a representa-

tion had been made by the Cabildo to the governor, that although the evil of slavery cannot be abolished at once without infringing the rights of property, and letting loose on society a set of people debased by their abject situation, yet that it was time to attack the abuse at the fountain head, and not only do justice to the Africans, but remove a source of corruption and a bar to industry from the Americans; it therefore proposed to government to abolish the slave trade. The result was the following decree of government:—

“Conformably to the rights of humanity, the representations of the respectable authorities of this capital, and the liberal principles proclaimed, and defended with valour and energy by the united provinces of the Riodela Plata,—the government, on the 9th of April last, made the following decree, which, by this, is ordered to be published.

“Article 1. The importation of cargoes of slaves is absolutely prohibited in the territory of the united provinces.

“Art. 2. The cargoes that may arrive within one year, from the 25th of May next, shall be ordered to leave our ports immediately.

“Art. 3. At the expiration of the year, the ships and cargoes of that description that may arrive on our coasts, shall be confiscated; the slaves on board are declared to be free, and government will take care of putting them to useful occupations.

“Art. 4. All the authorities of the state are strictly charged with the observance and executions of the present decree, which shall be published, circulated, and registered

ed in the secretary of state's office.

(Signed)

FELICIANO ANTONIO CHICLANA,
BERNARDINO DE REVADAVIA,
NICOLÁS HERRERA, Secretary."

"Buenos Ayres, May 15, 1812.

18. *Loss of the Irlam*.—On Sunday morning last, the weather being thick and hazy, the ship *Irlam* (letter of marque), from Barbadoes to Liverpool, laden with sugar and cotton, and having on board part of the skeleton of the 16th regiment of foot, commanded by captain Hall, consisting of 10 officers, and 62 rank and file, and 32 women and children, struck on Tuscar rock; the unhappy sufferers had but just time to get into the boats, some half-dressed, others almost naked, when she filled with water, and in a short time went to pieces. The only means by which the passengers and crew could save their lives was to seek refuge on the rock, which was almost inaccessible at that side, the summit being not less than 30 feet from the surface of the water. This they were enabled to accomplish with the assistance of a number of men, (providentially there for the purpose of laying the foundation of a light-house), who effected the task by drawing the men up from the boats, one by one, with a rope fastened round the waist, and placing the children in a bag made fast to the end of the rope. At this time a brig hove in sight, and lay-to; when seven of the officers, the ladies, the master, and a number of the sailors and soldiers, were conveyed on board, by the frequent returning of the boat. During this, it began to blow with increased violence, and the vessel

was compelled to get under weigh, leaving on the rock three officers, 16 privates, one woman, the mate, and 12 seamen, who, after remaining there for two days and nights, were on Monday evening brought to Wexford. The officers lost property to a considerable amount. One gentleman had plate on board worth 300*l*. The mate lost a box containing 200 guineas, the fruit of many years toil.—(*Wexford Jour.*)

20. This afternoon a violent hail-storm was experienced at Stratton-park, Hants, the seat of sir Thomas Baring, which was attended with thunder and lightning; the hail-stones were unusually large, many of them being three inches in circumference, and in a few minutes no less than 1,050 squares of glass were broken in the hot-house and cucumber and melon frames: all the fruit and plants being laid waste. Many panes in the windows of the mansion were also broken.

21. A tempest of thunder, lightning, and rain, was felt through an extensive district, eastward from Bedford, as far as Wisbech and some parts of Norfolk. Two horses were killed by the lightning near Wisbech; and at Witcham (in the Isle) a barn full of wheat and a bean-stack were set fire to and consumed. The same day, about noon, a tremendous storm of rain, accompanied with thunder and lightning, came on at Shepton Mallet, Somersetshire, and continued falling in torrents for about an hour. In about a quarter of an hour afterwards, either from the water running from the hills, or, as it is conjectured, from the bursting of a thunder cloud or water-spout upon a hill a little to the

the eastward of the town, from which the water descended in torrents, the lower part of the town was completely inundated. Very serious losses have been sustained: and the poor people whose houses lay near the river are almost ruined, the greatest part of their goods being carried away. A liberal subscription for their relief has been raised amongst the principal inhabitants.

23. Letters were received yesterday from Manchester, which communicate the unpleasant intelligence, that during the last few days several violent outrages have been committed by the Luddites. No fewer than three persons had been shot in different parts of the country, without any discovery or even suspicion of the murderers. Besides these atrocities, a gentleman, obnoxious to the hatred of the Luddites, was attacked in a lane, in the middle of the day, by several men who were strangers to him: after receiving a violent blow on the head with a large stone, he had the good fortune to escape by the swiftness of his horse. A working man, who had been mistaken for another person that had given information against the Luddites, was taken to a coal-pit with an intent of precipitating him to the bottom, when it was discovered that he was not the man whom the assailants were in quest of; and in consequence he was suffered to depart, without sustaining any injury. All possible means have been tried to induce the Luddites in prison to divulge the whole extent of their plan, and to impeach their ring-leaders, but without effect. Some have been promised protection,

and a competency for life, but to no purpose.

On May 24, a special commission for the trial of the rioters in Cheshire was opened by judge Dallas at Chester: the trials began on the 26th, and on the 30th, the court finally broke up, the judge having passed the following sentences, viz:—

Collin Linden, James Wilson, alias Roach, Forster Roach, James Bennett, Richard Wood, James Tomlinson, and William Thompson, for obtaining money contrary to the king's peace, from John Parker, esq.; Richard Lowndes, James Torkington, and John Henshall, for rioting at Pownall Fee and Styall, and obtaining several sums of money with force and violence; Jos. Thompson, for entering the dwelling-house of J. Goodair, at Edgeley, and stealing thereout silver spoons and other articles, and also setting fire to the same; W. Greenough, for entering the shop of Alice Berry, at Tintwisle, and taking away a quantity of flour; James Crossland, for threatening the life of Robert Thorniley, a manufacturer at Tintwisle, and breaking and destroying his tools; John Temple, for breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Samuel Wagstaff, and stealing five silver tea spoons and other articles; and John Heywood, for riotously assembling and breaking the factory of Messrs. Sidebotham, and breaking and destroying a machine, received sentence of death.

Eight were ordered to be transported for seven years.

John Jackson, William Stubbs, and Thomas Livesley, for riotously assembling and continuing together

ther at Macclesfield upwards of an hour after proclamation had been made to disperse. The two former to be imprisoned three years, the latter one year.

Thomas Whitaker was convicted on the evidence of one Parnell, of administering an unlawful oath to 18 or 20, in which they entered into a solemn obligation to destroy steam-looms, &c. Whitaker was sentenced to seven years transportation.

His lordship passed the awful judgment of death upon sixteen; and, in a most impressive address, held out not the smallest hope of mercy. Only five however were left for execution.

25. A lamentable accident happened last week in a coal-mine at Orrell, near Liverpool. The workmen had been warned not to approach a certain part with fire or light; notwithstanding which, one of them entered it with a lighted candle; when a tremendous explosion took place, by which all in that part of the mine, consisting of nine men and one woman, lost their lives.

26. The Carlisle Journal states, that tumult and disorder at present prevail in that neighbourhood, to a greater extent than at any time since the disturbances first broke out. It enumerates a variety of outrages. Even the asylum of the poor was not spared by these offenders. On Monday night the workhouse of St. Cuthbert's parish was entered by one of the windows, and a quantity of bacon and hams taken away.—The Leeds Mercury says, the arms-stealing system still prevails in the vicinity of Huddersfield.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Monday;

May 26.—Yesterday, one of the most terrible accidents on record, in the history of collieries, took place at Felling, near Gateshead, Durham, in the mine belonging to —Brandling, esq. the member for this place, which was the admiration of the district for the excellence of its ventilation and arrangements. Nearly the whole of the workmen were below, the second set having gone down before the first came up, when a double blast of hydrogen gas took place, and set the mine on fire, forcing up such a volume of smoke as darkened the air to a considerable distance, and scattered an immense quantity of small coal from the upper shaft. In the calamity, 93 men and boys perished, the remains of 86 of whom are still in the mine, which continues unapproachable. Meetings are to be called at Newcastle, and the neighbourhood, to raise subscriptions for the widows and orphans of the sufferers.

28. *Lincoln.*—A storm came on here in the afternoon, which was uncommonly severe, and has been attended with very fatal consequences in this neighbourhood. At Southray, a village three miles from Bardney, three boys were killed by the lightning, namely, John East and Richard Pask, aged 12 years, and Levi Day, 11 years. They were tending geese, in company with another, named Charles Blakey, about the same age, who escaped in a most providential manner. They were in a field near home, and, when the storm approached, retired to a hovel. Here they sat down on the ground, Blakey having two companions on one side, and one on the other.

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How long they had been in the hovel, is unknown to him; but, in a moment, he became alarmed. He jumped up in a fright, saying, "Come, boys, let us go home; we shall all be killed in this place." His companions did not speak, and he ran home, where he informed his mother, he thought his companions were all killed by the lightning, as they did not speak or stir. Several of the neighbours went to the place immediately, and there found them all lying dead. The lightning fell on their heads, and ran down their dodies, burning their necks, shoulders, and breasts, in a dreadful manner, causing many large brown sores. Blakey was hurt on the right arm and thigh, having a place on each scorched nearly as large as a half crown. A dog was in the hovel, and received no injury. Two of their shirts were burned, but the outward garments were not damaged.

29. The university of Cambridge was thrown into great consternation, by the appearance of fire in one of the apartments of Trinity College, at nine o'clock in the evening; it was, however, extinguished without damaging any other part of the building. There had been no fire or light in the apartment for the previous twenty-four hours; and this is the third or fourth instance of fire breaking out in different colleges of this university, without any discoverable cause. Much serious investigation has consequently taken place, but hitherto without effect.

JUNE.

1. The Installation of the

knights lately added to the order of the Bath, took place in the usual form. Early in the morning several troops of the horse guards were posted in detachments in the avenues leading to Westminster-abbey. Parties of the foot guards were posted within the abbey, and every preparation suited to the occasion was made. At about ten o'clock the persons connected with the ceremony met in the House of Lords, and at eleven the procession commenced in the following order:—

Six ushers, with wands.

The drums of his majesty's household.

The serjeant trumpeter, with his mace.

Squires of the knights elect.

Knights elect, and the proxies of those who were absent; wearing the surcoat, and girt with the sword of the order; carrying the mantle on the right arm, and bareheaded.

The squires of the knights' companions, wearing black velvet caps.

The knights' companions, in their full costume.

The duke of York, as grand master, attended by his aides-de-camp in uniform.

The pursuivants and javelin men, closing the procession.

The procession moved under a temporary boarded covering from the prince's chamber to the south-east door of the abbey, passed down the aisle, crossed by the west-end, and then turned through the great transept of the abbey to Henry the seventh's chapel, where the ceremony was gone through in the usual manner.

Temporary ranges of seats had been erected among the monuments,

ments, and they were filled with handsome and well-dressed females. At the west-end of the nave, and at the back of the organ, two galleries were erected for the friends of the dean and chapter, and for ladies of distinction.

At the close of the ceremony, the procession returned in the same order as before; the newly created Knights wearing their hats and plumes.

The Order of the Bath is now extended to fifty Knights, including the Sovereign and the Grand Master. The number installed was twenty-three, as follow:—

Right Hon. Sir Arthur Paget
The Earl of Wellington
Hon. Sir Geo. James Ludlow
Sir Samuel Hood, bart.
Earl of Northesk
Sir Richard John Strachan, bart.
Hon. Sir A. Forrester Cochrane
Sir John Stuart, Count of Maida
Sir Philip Francis
Sir G. Hilario Barlow, bart.
Viscount Strangford
Sir Richard Goodwin Keats
Sir George Beckwith
Sir David Baird
Hon. Sir John Hope
Sir Brent Spencer
Lord Cochrane
Sir John Cope Sherbrooke
Sir Wm. Carr Beresford
Lieut.-General Graham
Lieut.-Gen. Rowland Hill
Maj.-Gen. Sir Sam. Auchmuty
Right Hon. Henry Wellesley, ambassador in Spain.

2. Several antiquarians attended the opening of several barrows, situated about a mile to the eastward of the village of Rottingdean. A number of urns were found, containing bones, supposed to be those of Roman soldiers who had

fallen in battle about 2,000 years ago; but no coins were discovered.

3. Yesterday morning, a little before eight o'clock, a man, of a very gentlemanly appearance, dressed in black silk stockings, black small-clothes, marcella waistcoat, and dressing-gown, a white night-cap on his head, and carrying a small poker on his left arm, walked through St. James's Park. His uncommon appearance attracted a number of followers. He proceeded to York-house, and knocked at the door; the porter, observing his strange appearance, did not open the door; however, he repeated his knock with a degree of consequence, which induced the porter to open the door. He then presented a letter for the Duke of York, observing, that it was upon state affairs, and it must be given to his Royal Highness directly. The porter told him it was impossible to deliver the letter to his Royal Highness immediately, but he should have it very shortly; with which the other appeared satisfied, observing, he should call again about ten o'clock. He then left York-house, and proceeded along the Park, the crowd increasing.

Yesterday, between eleven and twelve o'clock, as two females, genteelly dressed, were passing the end of the Mall, opposite the Queen's Palace, they were very rudely accosted by a man with a large open clasp-knife, in a position as if he intended to cut them down; they screamed out, ran away, and escaped from him into Pimlico. After this, he went up to a man who had the appearance of a porter, near one of the seats, and in a more direct manner at-

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tempted to stab him ; but this person also avoided the attack, and escaped. A gentleman, who had been an observer of this outrageous conduct, watched the man into the White Horse public-house, in Pimlico, and then went in search of a police officer, and found Nicholls, belonging to the Bow-street office, in the Park, who went and took him into custody ; and under a pretence of treating him with some lamb-chops and ale, he got him quietly across the Park to the office, where he underwent an examination before Mr. Graham, when it appeared, that a soldier on duty at the Queen's guard, observing the prisoner's conduct, had taken the knife from him. Neither of the females, nor the man he had attacked, attended, they not being known ; but the gentleman who had observed him fully proved the above statement.

The account the prisoner gave of himself was, that his name was Erasmus Hooper, and that he had been an officer in the navy ; that he had been extremely ill-treated, or he should have been a post-captain ; but, instead of that, he had been tried upon false charges by a court-martial, and had been broke. On searching him, papers and a book were found, that fully proved him to be the man he represented himself to be ; and that he had served on board the ships the Marquis of Ely and the Ernest. A letter from the Secretary of the Admiralty acknowledged the receipt of his application to be reinstated. The book contained an alphabetical list of the marine force of the country, a full description of signals by day and night, also of telegraphic communica-

tions. Application was made at a navy agent's, in the Adelphi, whom he referred to, who acknowledged having been his agent ; and said the prisoner had been there yesterday morning, when his conduct was such that there was no doubt but he was deranged. He was ordered to be detained.

The company of flying artillery, under the command of captain Smith, passed through Brighton, from Lewes, for Hive, for the purpose of practising with shot and shells, at a target, on the beach, nearly fronting that place. Several of the Shrapnell shells, loaded with musket-bullets, which were not intended for use that day, had been fixed, in boxes, to the carriages of the field-pieces, for the inspection of the general ; and to one of these boxes, containing four shells, a spark, by some means, found its way, when three of the four shells were presently exploded, and their destructive contents dispersed in all directions. Major-general Hamond had his lip cut through ; lieutenant T. Blaker, of the local militia, was stunned by a fragment of the gun-carriage striking him on the back part of the head ; and two of the artillerymen were severely hurt, though neither had any bones broken.

8. *Fire in Plymouth-dock.*—The fire was first discovered in the morning, between three and four o'clock, in the eastern rope-house of Plymouth dock-yard ; and apparently, to those who first discovered it, burst forth in several places at the same time. An alarm was instantly given by the firing of the sentinels on duty in the yard, and on board the *Salvador del Mundo*,

Mundo, guard-ship, in Hamoaze, when every assistance was rendered as early and promptly as possible; but before any effectual force could be brought to operate, the flames had made considerable progress, and burnt with incredible fury; and, notwithstanding the good supply of water, and the exertions used at the engines, the fire was not subdued until seven o'clock. Fortunately, there were scarcely any stores in the building, but the machinery therein has been mostly destroyed or materially injured. The building is upwards of 1,400 feet in length, and the fire having broke out about the center, it was found necessary, in order to preserve any part of it, to cut off as much as possible at each extremity, whereby about 400 feet of the premises were saved.

The house in which the fire commenced is consumed; and it was fortunate that the cables, on their being manufactured, were invariably removed to another place, which prevented any of those valuable articles from being destroyed. The loss sustained by the public on this occasion, it is supposed will not exceed 12,000*l*.

11. The atrocious practice of stealing arms has been lately carried to an alarming extent in the West Riding of Yorkshire. On Wednesday se'nnight a number of persons, about seven or eight, went undisguised to the house of Mr. Milnes, in Horbury, and rousing him from his sleep, demanded entrance. Mr. Milnes not appearing inclined to obey, they threatened if he did not instantly open the door they would immediately force it. Mr. Milnes, finding he could make no availing

resistance, gave them admittance. They then insisted upon having his fire-arms; but on being satisfied that he had none, they demanded money and refreshment: he then gave them some silver, and bread, cheese, and beer. They then requested that he would allow them to take some to some poor fellows who they said were watching at a distance; with this requisition he thought it also prudent to comply, and they then civilly took their leave of him. On Sunday night following, these depredators made a farther attack on several houses at Notherton (a place in the immediate vicinity of Horbury), where they succeeded in obtaining seven or eight stand of arms; and upon this occasion they behaved with peculiar atrocity, by wantonly firing several musket balls into one of the houses. The success of these nocturnal depredators on this occasion is the more remarkable, as, on the day before (Saturday), the chief constable of the district, and the constable of Horbury, had received directions to receive the fire-arms of such of the inhabitants as were disposed to give them up, and which they carried into effect the same day. Most of the inhabitants readily gave up their arms to the custody of the civil magistrates, but some few refused. The constables were much hooted and abused by the populace whilst they were executing this duty, and one of the mob had the effrontery to take from his pocket a handful of musket balls, which he threw into the air, exclaiming, "Here are hailstones for you." It is said there is a person in Horbury employed in casting these leaden messengers of death.

death. Every article of lead, such as pumps, water-spouts, &c. which can be readily conveyed away, is constantly disappearing. The glaring violation of the laws of society and of private property, evinced in these nocturnal visits, though an evil of great magnitude, is, as it were, lost in the contemplation of the more atrocious purposes for which those instruments of death are collected.

On Thursday night last, the same system of depredation was pursued at Osset, about a mile from Horbury. At half past twelve a party of men, consisting of about twelve persons, surrounded the house of Mr. Butterfield, and demanded his fire-arms, threatening him with instant death if he hesitated; at two other houses they fired two musket balls through the door. This lawless banditti then went down the common, where they entered every house likely to contain arms, and insisted upon their being delivered up, threatening to shoot the owners if the least delay was manifested. These depredators were armed with muskets and pistols. They obtained on this occasion about six stand of arms.

13. In the Court of Chancery, in the case of George Ross, a bankrupt, the lord chancellor held, that a person attending on the commissioners under his commission, though not summoned to attend, and though his presence was not required by them, was protected from arrest by any of his creditors. His lordship accordingly ordered that the bankrupt should be discharged; and that all the costs, charges, and expenses incurred by him since his arrest,

should be paid by his creditors, at whose suit he was arrested.

15. *Naples*.—Vesuvius, which had been quiet for several years, has suddenly broken out. At nine o'clock, on the morning of the 12th, loud reports proceeded from the bosom of the mountain, which was followed by an eruption of cinders and smoke. After this the mountain remained quiet for an hour. At eleven o'clock two fresh reports were heard, when the crater vomited forth fire and smoke, which completely covered the horizon. On the 13th and 14th the mountain was calm, but at the instant we are writing, the volcano is again in action, and its crater is covered with an immense column of smoke.

15. *Chester*.—This day Joseph Thompson, and John Temples, found guilty at the special commission held for this county, on the 25th ult. for the trial of the rioters were executed, pursuant to their sentences, at the new drop, behind the city gaol.

About half past twelve o'clock they left the castle; when the solemn procession, escorted by a party of the Oxford Blues, and accompanied by the proper officers, proceeded through the city to the new gaol, followed by an immense crowd of people. On the arrival of the convicts at the latter place, they were conducted to the chapel, where they very devoutly joined the clergyman in prayer. At one o'clock they ascended the drop, and soon after were launched into eternity.

Manchester.—About twelve o'clock on Saturday the awful sentence of the law was put in execution upon the eight persons condemned

demned at the late special assize at Lancaster, viz. James Smith, Thomas Kerfoot, John Fletcher, and Abraham Charlson, for burning, &c. Messrs. Wroe and Duncough's weaving-mill at West Houghton; John Howorth, John Lee, and Thomas Hoyle, for breaking into the house of John Holland, in this town, and stealing bread, cheese, &c.; and Hannah Smith, for highway robbery, by stealing potatoes at Bank Top, in this town. Their conduct throughout confinement, manifested the greatest indifference and unconcern, as to the awful state in which they were placed; and all the pathetic exhortations of the reverend the chaplain were frequently repeated before signs of repentance appeared. Before being turned off, however, they became penitent, and confessed their offences.

16. The Sarah and Eliza, P. Macarthy, Master, arrived at Portsmouth on Tuesday, laden with wine, on account of government. Seven friars and three nuns came passengers in her; they are of the religious orders of the Franciscans and Dominicans, and were obliged to fly from Valencia at the time that place was besieged by Suchet, they having strenuously exerted themselves during the seige in opposing the French. The friars wear a dress of coarse brown cloth, with a cowl affixed, with which they occasionally cover their heads. The nuns are dressed in black, with long black veils, which they generally wear thrown over their heads, so as to leave their faces quite unconcealed.

On the 9th instant, a marine on board the Eyen prison ship, lying in the river Medway, fell from a stage into the sea, and was sinking,

when a French officer, of the name of Guillon Khor, jumped immediately, with his clothes and boots on, from the fore-castle, which is about thirty-five feet high, after him, and held him for several minutes at the risk of his own life, the marine holding him fast by the collar, which no doubt would have caused the death of the French officer, if his strength had not sustained him till a boat came in time to save them; the marine was almost lifeless.

Abstract of non-resident and resident and incumbents.—It appears by the abstract of a return of the number of non-resident and resident incumbents in England and Wales, presented to the House of Commons, and ordered to be printed on the 28th ult. that the number of

Incumbents in England and Wales, is	10261
Of which are resident	4421
Non-resident from exemption	2671
Non-residents by licences	2114
Non-residents not included in licences or exemptions.....	1017
Miscellaneous cases of non-residents	38
Total non-residents ———	5840

Which shows that of the whole number of incumbents, the number of non-residents exceeds the number of residents..... 1419

17. A competition took place at the sale of the Roxburgh Library, for the Decameron of Boccaccio, a single volume in small folio, printed in the year 1471: it was knocked down to the marquis of Blandford, for 2260*l.*!!!

18. The commotions in the manufacturing

facturing counties were never more alarming than at present. Letters, which arrived in town yesterday, from the vicinity of Manchester, relate various outrages recently committed by the persons designated Luddites. At a late hour in the evening they assemble in large gangs, and proceed from house to house, in the small villages, in search of fire-arms, which they seldom fail to obtain, as they generally proceed on information. One account which we have seen states, that a gentleman had two guns, one an old and the other a new one: the latter he was desirous of preserving, and therefore hid it between a mattrass and bed. A night or two afterwards, several armed men demanded admittance into his house; which having obtained, they desired possession of all the fire-arms on the premises. The gentleman gave up the old gun, as the only one he had; but this did not satisfy them; they told him where to find the other, and threatened to shoot him if he delayed a moment to obey them. The new gun was in consequence resigned. The churches are every where plundered for lead, to be converted into bullets.

Between eleven and twelve o'clock on Thursday night, Mr. Nadin, assisted by a picquet of military, took into custody (and seized the papers of) thirty-eight persons unlawfully assembled at a public-house, in Ancoat's-lane, Manchester. They stated the object of their meeting to be for the purpose of petitioning for peace and parliamentary reform, but their papers and books appeared to be of a different tendency. They were examined by the magistrates, at the

New Bailey, on Friday; which examination was adjourned to Saturday, when it was resumed, and the whole thirty-eight were committed to Lancaster gaol, to take their trials for having administered the abominable and unlawful oath, known by the term of twisting-in.

At the Newcastle races, just as the race was finished, the temporary stand belonging to the White Hart inn, being loaded with about 200 persons, gave way in the middle, and involved nearly 100 in the crash. About forty were seriously hurt, and ten or twelve dangerously, several of them having broken limbs.

18. An aggregate Catholic meeting was held in Dublin, the earl of Fingall in the chair. Lord Killeen moved a series of thirteen resolutions, recommending the renewal of an earnest application, by petition to the legislature, for the total and unqualified repeal of the penal laws: the petitions to be prepared and presented without delay; lamenting that "the promised boon of Catholic freedom had been cruelly intercepted by the fatal witchery of an unworthily, secret influence," — recommending catholic freeholders not to support candidates who do not pledge themselves to support the catholic cause, — and returning thanks to lords Grey, Grenville, Donoughmore, and Mr. Grattan.

Counsellor O'Gorman begged it might be distinctly understood, that any arrangements or condition which might be connected with Mr. Canning's motion in the House of Commons, would have no influence on the conduct of the catholics of Ireland, as they were determined

determined to obtain their freedom unconditionally.

A resolution was then passed for calling another aggregate meeting on Thursday se'nnight; and that the Board, thus authorised to prepare the petitions, should have the same ready for the consideration of the meeting on that day.

Two French officers, on parole in Reading, fought a duel, in a field not far from the New Inn, on the Oxford-road, when one of them received a ball, which passed through the back part of his neck. Unable to procure pistols; they agreed to decide the affair with a fowling-piece, at about fifty paces, by firing alternately. The first discharge was conclusive. The officer who fired rendered every assistance to his wounded antagonist. He accompanied him in a post-chaise to his lodgings, where a surgeon dressed his wound, which is said to be not dangerous.

20. *Sheffield.*—Yesterday there were great rejoicings in this town, in consequence of the determination of government, to suspend for a time the Orders in Council; by which America will have an opportunity of evincing her desire to remain on amicable terms with this country. The ringing of bells and the firing of cannon were among the modes resorted to by the people to demonstrate their joy on this occasion. We fervently pray, that neither the people, nor the government, may ever have cause to repent of this measure; evidently conceded by the latter to relieve the present distresses of the former.

Leeds.—The beneficial effects of the repeal of the Orders in Council are already apparent, in the impulse given to the woollen trade.

Bales of cloth, which have been stored in the warehouses of the American merchants for months, in some instances, we may say, for years, are now in transit to the place of their destination; and we are peculiarly happy to state, that there were more purchasers in the Leeds cloth-halls this morning, than there has been on any market-day since the enactment of the celebrated Orders in Council.

Stafford.—It was reported at Newcastle, and the Potteries, on Thursday last, that ministers had pledged themselves to abandon the Orders in Council. In consequence of which considerable rejoicings took place, particularly in the Potteries; and the countenances of the people resumed an appearance of satisfaction and pleasure, such as we have not witnessed on any recent occasion.

24. A nest of villains has been discovered in the Isle of Wight, deserters from the several detachments there; who were proceeding, in a systematic plan, to rob and plunder; they had dug a cavern to contain their booty, in which were found remains of lambs, sheep, and calves. Three of them meeting a countryman, stopped him, and asked him to buy a watch; the man prudently told them he had no money, but would go and get some; instead of which he applied to a company of sheep-shearers, who, with the man, took them before a magistrate of the island, who recognised on the back of one of the robbers, a coat he gave to a poor man whose house they had lately broke open. They were committed to prison.

In the renewed Turnpike Acts, passed this session, a new clause has

has been introduced, enacting—that if any person or persons shall ride upon any causeway or foot-paths, or shall drive any horse, cattle, swine, cart, or carriage thereon, or shall wilfully cause any damage whatever to be done, he or they shall for every such offence, be liable to a fine of 20s. half to go to the informer, and the other half to be applied to the purposes of the act: and the collector of the tolls for the time being, must affix on a board, in legible characters, his christian and surname over his door, under a penalty of 10l.

A singular phenomenon was witnessed at Marseilles. On a sudden a rush of water from the sea came into the port, forming a current so rapid, that it drew every thing with it through the gullet. The chain was shut to keep in the vessels, the alarm guns fired, and the *générale* beat. The sea then retired all at once, leaving the harbour dry, and all the vessels aground. Almost at the same instant the sea returned by leaps and bounds, with extraordinary impetuosity, filling again the harbour, placing afloat the vessels, and inundating the quays. Afterwards, every thing returned to its usual state. It was first believed that it was the effect of a water-spout, which, having pumped the water from the sea a short distance from the harbour, had occasioned the current which left it dry, and then having let fall rapidly the column of water which it kept suspended, produced the mass of water which inundated the quays: but the same phenomenon occurring again in the course of the day, and the water in the harbour flowing and

ebbing without ceasing, being in a continual state of oscillation, the idea of attributing it to a water-spout was given up. It is now supposed to have been produced by a distant earthquake, and it is recollected that a similar event happened in that port in 1756, during the earthquake at Lisbon.

25. *Huddersfield*. — Last Monday, about midnight, a great number of armed men, with their faces disfigured by broad black marks down each cheek and over the forehead, assembled near the dwelling-house of Mr. Fisher, a shopkeeper at Briestwistle, and after firing two guns or pistols, demanded admittance into Mr. F.'s house, which he refused. They then broke open the door, and two of them rushing into the house, seized Mr. F. who had just got out of bed; they each presented a pistol to his breast, and threatened him with instant death if he stirred a foot. Not intimidated by this threat, Mr. F. rushed from them towards the door, when he was seized by other six men, who placing a sheet over his head, face, and arms, kept him in that situation while their comrades ransacked the house, and took from his pocket-book bills to the amount of 116l. besides 20l. in notes, and some cash out of a drawer, but to what amount Mr. F. does not exactly know. When the depredation was completed, the leader cried out to the guard placed over Mr. F. "Let him go: don't hurt him; we have got what we wanted, and we will bring it back in three months," and immediately made off.

The committee appointed to inquire into the causes which retard the decision of suits in Chancery,

cery, and appeals and writs of error before the lords, have reported that the arear of Chancery causes is undiminished, and the appeals to the Chancellor from the master of the Rolls increased in number. At the end of Hilary term, 1812, 109 original causes remained, set down in the Chancellor's paper for hearing, and 39 appeals from the Rolls. Re-hearings remained much the same as before. The bankruptcy arrears were diminished. The committee are concerned to find so great a number of causes before the House of Lords, waiting for decision. There remain to be heard—19 appeals from England; 179 ditto Scotland; and 57 ditto Ireland:—11 writs of error from England; 2 ditto Scotland; and 6 ditto Ireland.

29. The German papers mention, that the count of Gottorp, who had resided for some time at Herrenhut, wished to become a member of the Society of Moravian Brethren; but the directors of the Union would by no means give their consent to it, it being contrary to their institution to connect themselves with crowned heads, or those who have been such.

Mr. Sadler, the aéronaut, made his twenty-third ascent at Manchester, and alighted at Oakwood, about six miles from Sheffield. He made the passage in forty-eight minutes, so that he must have travelled at the amazing rate of a mile in a minute.

30. A melancholy accident occurred on the river Thames on Sunday last. Eleven persons, all married men, engaged a sailing-boat of the wherry kind. The wind which had been very high, becoming more moderate on sea-

reach, they made fast the main-sail to the side of the boat; soon after which, a sudden gust of wind upset the wherry, and six of the unfortunate men were drowned. Another account states that nine lost their lives. Most of them have left large families.

The number of French commissioned officers, and masters of privateers and merchantmen, who have broken their parole in the three last years, ending 5th June, is 692, of whom 242 have been retaken, and 450 escaped. A considerable number of officers have besides been ordered into confinement, for various other breaches of their parole engagements.

The Abbé Romanelli has visited lately all the catacombs which surround Naples. He likewise entered the subterraneous caverns of the church of St. Gennaro; and, assisted by a guide, explored them to the extent of two miles and a half, in the midst of human ashes, broken coffins, skeletons, and ruins. He beheld on all sides, Greek inscriptions, sculptured upon stone or marble; and paintings of Christians who had suffered martyrdom. He also noticed the remains of some altars, the tombs of the first Neapolitan bishops, and one catacomb, the inscriptions on which recorded the ravages of a pestilence in Naples, in 1020.

The island of Goree, off the African coast, now contains 2,000 blacks, who have been rescued from slave ships by our cruisers. A plan has been lately devised for recruiting the West India regiments from them; and some officers are about to be sent out, to carry it into effect.

JULY.

1. An official return of the prisoners of war at present in Great Britain, laid before the House of Commons, states the total number of French prisoners at 52,649, Danish, 1,868 — Grand total, 54,517.

4. This morning, about seven o'clock, one of Mr. Butt's powder mill's, at Hounslow, blew up. Two men employed in it, who were at a short distance at the time, were knocked down, but not killed. Their bodies presented a most shocking spectacle; they were so changed and black, that they could scarcely be known. A surgeon was sent for, who advised their being conveyed to St. George's Hospital, which was accordingly done in the afternoon, in a caravan used for conveying powder to London. Their groans and screams, when they were moved, were extremely distressing.

St. Vincent's. — The Wallibon Quarter, on Sunday night last, witnessed a scene of horror and devastation, much more terrific and destructive in its effects than even the memorable night of the awful eruption of the Morne Souffriere. Prodigious masses of ignited substances which were ejected from the mouth of the Wallibon river, effectually stopped the rolling of its waters; and a vast lake, in a constant state of effervescence, had formed near its source, which continued daily to increase, till it covered about four acres of land. On Sunday night last, the diffusion of water, from the fall of heavy rains, became so great that the frightful reservoir overflowed, and the prodigious

flood burst through the barriers of volcanic combustibles with irresistible fury; and such was its destructive impetuosity, that it completely inundated the adjacent valley; and besides its ravages in bearing down a number of negro houses, several lives were lost, and others so dreadfully scalded from the river of liquid fire which overwhelmed them, that their lives are despaired of. The mountain, too, during the dreadful scene, had a return of one of its terrific fever fits; its roarings caused a general consternation; and on the following night, about eleven o'clock, a most violent concussion of the earth, such as the oldest inhabitants never experienced, was felt all over the island.

6. *Plymouth.* — This morning, about nine o'clock, the inhabitants of Plymouth were thrown into indescribable terror. Mr. Hyne, flour-merchant, of Old-Town, Plymouth, while sitting at breakfast with his wife and two children, suddenly seized one of them, and cut its throat; he then seized the other, and on the interference of his agonized wife, he fired a pistol at her, when she fell; and he completely severed the windpipe of the second child. He finished the horrible business by blowing his own brains out with a second pistol. The consternation of the neighbours on rushing into the scene of blood, may be easily conceived. Mrs. Hyne was found living; a ball had entered her shoulder, and she had been stunned for the moment by the report of the pistol, which was held very close, and which only missed its intended effect by the agitation of Mr. Hyne. The unfortunate and wretched

wretched perpetrator of this deed was about 30 years of age, had always borne a good character, and was considered to be a man possessing property. He had transacted business on the Saturday preceding; was seen walking on the Hoe, at Plymouth, on the sabbath evening, with his family, apparently a happy group; and had promised to meet several tradesmen at Plymouth-dock on Monday morning.

Another account.---On Monday morning Mr. Hyne rose early, leaving Mrs. Hyne asleep, and having sent his two maid servants out of the house on frivolous errands, he took the youngest child, about thirteen months old, to the bottom of the garden, and cut its throat; he then returned to the kitchen, and placed the child on a chair. The next victim was a fine child, three years of age, whose brains he blew out with a pistol. He then rushed up the stairs to his wife's chamber, found her awaking, kissed her, and discharged a pistol at her; the ball entered the left breast. He then went on the staircase, fired a pistol at his left breast, rushed down stairs, and dropped dead in the kitchen. The report of Mrs. Hyne's death is premature; and from some symptoms which have appeared, her recovery is thought to be not impossible.

A coroner's inquisition was taken on Monday last, at Osbournby, near Falkingham, on the body of a man named Page, who had died under circumstances of peculiar horror. The deceased was a pauper, belonging to the parish of Silk Willoughby, but not choosing to stay in the workhouse, he was

in the habit of strolling about from town to town, subsisting upon the provision which he begged. It was his custom to deposit what he procured in this way beyond the immediate cravings of nature, within his shirt next to his body; and having considerable store of meat and bread so placed, he, in the early part of last week, it is supposed, feeling unwell, laid himself down in a field in the parish of Scredington, to sleep. The meat, from the heat of the weather and of the man's body, soon becoming putrid, was struck by flies; and in a short time the maggots which were so occasioned, not only preyed upon the inanimate pieces of flesh, but began literally to consume the living substance. Favoured by the drowsiness and sloth of the wretched man, these vermin made such havoc in his body, that when, on Tuesday, he was found by some persons who were accidentally passing in the field, he presented a sight disgusting in the extreme. White maggots, of an enormous size, were crawling in and upon his body, and the removal of the outer ones only served to show hundreds of others, which had penetrated so deeply, that it was clear the very vitals of the miserable man were invaded by them. Page was conveyed to Osbournby, and a surgeon was immediately procured, who dressed the parts affected; but the sufferer died in a few hours after. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased was "eaten to death by maggots!"

8. A very extraordinary robbery took place at Galley's Quay, at the Custom-house, early this morning. Ten bales of valuable silk, and two
boxes

boxes of ostrich's feathers, recently imported, were brought in a hoy the day before, alongside the above quay, previously to being landed, and the duties paid thereon. Two watchmen were put on board the hoy for the purpose of security. About five o'clock in the morning a party of men came on board, and said they had instructions from the proprietors of the goods to take the hoy down the river again, as she had been brought up by mistake, and that they would shortly return for that purpose. The villains were as good as their words but for fear of being suspected, they carried the hoy out into the stream, and then forced the watchmen below, where they remained confined until the whole property was taken away in craft brought for that purpose. The loss is rendered more heavy to the importers as the Custom-house claims the payment of the duties. The property is valued at between 2 and 3,000*l*.

9. A fire broke out at the village of Gamblingay, in Cambridge-shire. It began at a blacksmith's shop, and for want of engines, water, and proper assistance, it consumed twenty-three houses.

10. St Vincent's Gazettes to the 18th May, state, that the Soufriere mountain had continued to be agitated up to the 7th, but had since shown scarcely any signs of commotion. By the eruption, the large rivers of Rabacca and Wallibon were dried up, and in their places was a wide expanse of barren land. The melted minerals which were dashed into the sea, had formed a promontory which jutted out some distance from the main land, at Morne Ronde. The

quantity of matter discharged from the crater, is supposed to exceed twenty times the original bulk of the mountain.

10. *Winchester Assizes*.—John James, a youth of nineteen, was indicted for the wilful murder of his mistress, Elizabeth Hill, at Shalfleet, near Yarmouth, Isle of Wight. It appeared that his master, to whom he was apprenticed as a shoemaker, was gone with his son to church on the morning of Sunday the 21st of June last, leaving his wife and this lad at home. On their return, in company with a neighbour, they discovered Mrs. Hill lying on the kitchen floor, with three deep wounds inflicted with a hatchet on her head and face, and her throat cut across. On interrogating the boy, who was deliberately walking before the house, he very calmly confessed the foul deed. He stood at the bar, during the whole of the trial, with his eyes bent on the ground, in a kind of melancholy apathy. He viewed the dreadful instruments, produced in court, with unaltered aspect; he heard the awful sentence with indifference, and retired without having uttered a word, beyond a refusal to say any thing. He declares that he entertains no sorrow for the action; for had any one else come in his way, he should have done the same thing. His mistress, he says, was always too good to him. He feels no terror at his approaching fate, but expresses himself truly happy and content to die. When strongly interrogated as to the probable motive of his conduct, he referred the inquirers, without comment, to the 3rd chapter of Job. He appears an enthusiast of the

Methodist

Methodist persuasion. The judge (sir Allan Chambre) commented with much feeling on the dangerous effects of vulgar and literal conceptions of scriptural passages.

10. *Mahon*. — The following interesting and affecting little story is related by one of the officers of the *Swallow* :

In the gallant and sanguinary action which that ship maintained against so superior a force, close in with *Frejus*, a short time since ; there was a seaman named *Phelan*, who had his wife on board ; she was stationed (as is usual when women are on board in time of battle) to assist the surgeon in the care of the wounded. From the close manner in which the *Swallow* engaged the enemy, yard-arm and yard-arm, the wounded, as may be expected, were brought below very fast ; amongst the rest a messmate of her husband's (consequently her own), who had received a musket ball through the side. Her exertions were used to console the poor fellow, who was in great agonies, and nearly breathing his last ; when, by some chance, she heard her husband was wounded on deck ; her anxiety and already overpowered feelings could not one moment be restrained ; she rushed instantly on deck, and received the wounded tar in her arms ; he faintly raised his head to kiss her—she burst into a flood of tears, and told him to take courage, "all would yet be well," but had scarcely pronounced the last syllable, when an ill-directed shot took her head off. The poor tar, who was closely wrapt in her arms, opened his eyes once more—then shut them for ever. What renders the circum-

stance the more affecting was, the poor creature had been only three weeks delivered of a fine boy, who was thus in a moment deprived of a father and a mother. As soon as the action subsided, "and nature began again to take its course," the feelings of the tars, who wanted no unnecessary incitement to stimulate them, were all interested for poor Tommy (for so he was called) : many said, and all feared, he must die ; they all agreed he should have a hundred fathers ; but what could be the substitute of a nurse and a mother ! however, the mind of humanity soon discovered there was a Maltese goat on board, belonging to the officers, which gave an abundance of milk ; and as there was no better expedient, she was resorted to, for the purpose of suckling the child, who, singular to say, is thriving and getting one of the finest little fellows in the world ; and so tractable is his nurse, that even now she lies down when poor little Tommy is brought to be suckled by her. *Phelan* and his wife were sowed up in one hammock, and it is needless to say, buried in one grave.

20. At the assizes for *Hertford*, an action was tried, in which *Yarrow*, a hair-dresser at *Ware*, was plaintiff, and colonel *Calvert*, M. P. and captain *Elvin* were defendants. The plaintiff was a serjeant of the 3rd company of the eastern division of *Hertford* local militia, of which the defendants were colonel and adjutant. The plaintiff, after the regiment had been disbanded, had been taken from his shop at *Ware*, and tried for a trifling military offence by a court-martial, who sentenced him to solitary confinement

ment for one month, and the defendants ordered him to the county gaol, and to be kept on bread and water. Lord Ellenborough said, the sentence was not warranted by law, and that the defendants having even exceeded the sentence, must be answerable in damages. Verdict for plaintiff, Damages 20*l*.

22. Murder of the Count and Countess D'Antraigues, at Barnes, in Surrey. — The count and countess D'Antraigues, French noblesse, and distantly related to the unfortunate family of the Bourbons, resided on Barnes-terrace, on the banks of the Thames. They lived in a style which, though far from what they had formerly moved in, yet was rather bordering on high life than the contrary. They kept a carriage, coachman, footman, and a servant out of livery. The latter was an Italian, or Piedmontese, named Lawrence; and it is of this wretch we have to relate the following particulars. The count and countess intending to visit London as yesterday, ordered the carriage to be at the door by eight in the morning, which it accordingly was; and soon after that hour they were in the act of leaving the house to get into it, the countess being at the door, and the count coming down stairs, when the report of a pistol was heard in the passage, which it has since appeared took no effect, nor was it then ascertained by whom it was fired. Lawrence was at this time in the passage, and on the smoke subsiding, was seen to rush past the count, and proceed with great speed up stairs. He almost instantly returned with a dirk in his hand, and plunged it

up to the hilt in the count's left shoulder; he continued his course, and made for the street-door, where stood the countess, whom he instantly despatched, by plunging the same dirk into her left breast. This last act had scarcely been completed, when the count appeared also at the door, bleeding and following the assassin, who made for the house, and ran up stairs. The count, though extremely weak and faint, continued to follow him, but so great was the terror occasioned, that no one else had the same resolution. The assassin and the count had not been up stairs more than a minute, when the report of another pistol was heard, which satisfied those below that Lawrence had finally put an end to the existence of his master. The alarm was now given, and the cry of murder! murder! resounded from every mouth. The countess was still lying at the front door by which the turnpike road runs, and at length men of sufficient resolution were found to venture up stairs, and, horrible to relate, they found the count lying across his own bed, groaning heavily, and nearly dead, and the blood-thirsty villain lying by his side, a corpse. He had put a period to his own existence, by placing a pistol, that he found in the room, in his mouth, and discharging its contents through his head. The count only survived about twenty-five minutes after the fatal blow, and died without being able to utter a word.

The countess had by this time been brought into the house; the wound was directly on her left breast, extremely large, and she died about five minutes before her husband,

husband, also, without uttering a single word. The servants of the house were all collected last night, but no cause for so horrid an act was at that time known: all was but conjecture.

The following circumstances, in so extraordinary a case, may be, however, worth relating. The count, it appears, always kept a brace of pistols hanging loaded in his bed-room, and a small dirk. About a month ago the countess and the servants heard the report of a pistol up stairs, and were in consequence greatly alarmed: when one of the latter, a female, went up stairs, and looked into her master's room: it was full of smoke, and she screamed out; on its clearing away she saw Lawrence standing, who told her nothing was the matter, he had only fired off one of his master's pistols. It afterwards appeared he had fired it into the wainscot; it was loaded with ball, and the bullet from the pistol is yet to be seen.

The count and countess were about 60 years of age. The latter was highly accomplished, a great proficient in music, and greatly admired for her singing, in fashionable parties. There is no reason whatever to believe that Lawrence was insane. Only about ten minutes previous to his committing this deed of blood, he went over to an adjoining public-house and took a glass of gin; he had lived only three months in the family, and report says, was to be discharged in a few days.

The count and countess had resided in their house at Barnes for four or five years, and have left an only son, who, we understand, is

at present in this country studying the law.

Besides his house on Barnes-terrace, count d'Antraigues had a town establishment, No. 7, Queen Ann-street, West. He was 56, and the countess 53 years of age. The count had eminently distinguished himself in the troubles which have convulsed Europe for the last 22 years. In 1789 he was actively engaged in favour of the revolution; but during the tyranny of Robespierre, he emigrated to Germany, and was employed in the service of Russia. At Venice, in 1797, he was arrested by Bernadotte, at the order of Buonaparté, who pretended to have discovered in his port-folio, all the particulars of the plot upon which the 18th Fructidor was founded. The count made his escape from Milan, where he was confined, and was afterwards employed in the diplomatic mission of Russia, at the court of Dresden. In 1806 he was sent to England with credentials from the emperor of Russia, who had granted him a pension, and placed great dependance upon his services. He received here letters of denization, and was often employed by government. The countess was the once celebrated mademoiselle St. Huberti, an actress at the theatre Française. She had amassed a very large fortune by her professional talents.

Trial and conviction of Dawson at Cambridge Assizes.—The prisoner was arraigned on an indictment, with numerous counts, viz. for poisoning a horse belonging to Mr. Adams, of Royston, Herts, and a blood mare belonging to Mr. Northey, at Newmarket, in 1809;

1809; and also for poisoning a horse belonging to sir F. Standish, and another belonging to lord Foley, in 1811, at the same place. He was tried and convicted on the first case only.

The principal witness, as on the former trial, was Cecil Bishop, an accomplice with the prisoner. He had been for some time acquainted with Dawson, and on application to him had furnished him with corrosive sublimate to sicken horses. He went on to prove that Dawson and he had become progressively acquainted, and that on the prisoner complaining the stuff was not strong enough, he prepared him a solution of arsenic. Witness described this as not offensive in smell; the prisoner having informed him that the horses had thrown up their heads, and refused to partake of the water into which the corrosive sublimate had been infused. The prisoner complained the stuff was not strong enough; and on being informed if it was made strong it would kill the horses, he replied he did not mind that, the Newmarket frequenters were rogues, and if he, meaning witness, had a fortune to lose, they would plunder him of it. The prisoner afterwards informed witness he used the stuff, which was then strong enough, as it had killed a hackney and two brood mares.

Mrs. Tillbrook, a housekeeper at Newmarket, where the prisoner lodged, proved having found a bottle of liquid concealed under Dawson's bed, previous to the horses having been poisoned; and that Dawson was out late on the Saturday and Sunday evenings pre-

vious to that event, which took place on the Monday. After Dawson had left the house, she found the bottle, which she identified as having contained the said liquid, and which a chemist proved to have contained poison. Witness also proved that Dawson had cautioned her that he had poison in the house for some dogs, lest any one should have the curiosity to taste it. Other witnesses proved a chain of circumstances which left no doubt of the prisoner's guilt.

Mr. King, for the prisoner, took a legal objection, that no criminal offence had been committed, and that the subject was a matter of trespass. He contended, that the indictment must fall, as it was necessary to prove that the prisoner had malice against the owner of the horse, to impoverish him, and not against the animal. He also contended that the object of the prisoner was to injure and not to kill. The objections, however, were over-ruled without reply, and the prisoner was convicted.

The judge pronounced sentence of death on the prisoner, and informed him, in strong language, he could not expect mercy to be extended to him.

26. At York assizes, Elizabeth Woodger and Susannah Lyall were charged with the wilful murder of a new-born male infant. The following is a brief but correct sketch of this extraordinary case:—On the 12th of March, the wife of G. Needham, of Blackburn; near Rotherham, was delivered of two children, a girl and a boy; the former was perfectly formed, but in the boy there was a deficiency in the superior part of the

the head, the brain not being protected by any bony matter, but merely covered by a membrane. Woodger, a midwife, conceiving that it was not likely to live, formed the design of putting a period to its existence, which was accomplished by drowning it in an earthen vessel. It was then buried, but was taken up again on the 17th of March, for the purpose of the coroner's inquest. The surgeon who examined the body, stated, that the child was perfectly formed, except his head, which was deficient in the superior part an inch and a half. Any pressure upon it must have produced dangerous consequences; and he did not think it possible that the child could have survived more than a few hours. The prisoners used no concealment, and it was clear that they acted under mistaken apprehensions as to the law, and thought they were justified in what they did. Several ladies gave the prisoners a most excellent character for humanity. The evidence having been gone through, his lordship in his address to the jury, said—"I think this prosecution may be of great use to the public, in removing an erroneous opinion, that the law allows the right of deliberately taking away the life of a human being under any circumstances whatever. It is therefore highly necessary that the contrary should be known." The jury found the prisoners guilty, but recommended them to mercy, on account of the mistaken notion under which they acted. His lordship said he should not pass sentence upon the prisoners, but should write by that night's post to the secretary of

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state, to make a representation of the case to the Prince Regent.

22. On this day General Wellington gained a complete victory over the French army commanded by marshal Marmont, near Salamanca.

York, July 26.—The business on the crown side finished yesterday afternoon. Only one prisoner received sentence of death, and that sentence will be commuted to imprisonment. Mr. Justice Bailey said, he should not finally discharge either the grand or petit juries, as their services might possibly be wanted again. It was the intention of the judges to continue the assizes by adjournment, that, if the state of the county should require it, they might resume the assizes, and try such persons as should be committed; but he trusted there would be no occasion for this. Several of the rioters have been tried, and some of them found guilty. The *York Herald*, to a report of the trials, has subjoined the following paragraph:—

"It may be proper here to add, that the most perfect order and decorum prevailed in the court during the whole of the trials for rioting; and there is in the city no military parade, nor any thing to indicate that the county is not in a state of the most profound tranquillity and security.

27. A master of languages, named Dandon, died lately at Berlin, literally from denying himself the necessaries of life. It appears that he gave instructions to his pupils during the day, and solicited alms at night. Under the floor of his apartment were found concealed 20,000 crowns in specie. He had no other heir than his

H brother,

brother, whom he had refused to see for 37 years, because he had sent a letter to him without paying the postage.

28. *Strabane*.—We feel exceedingly sorry to notice, that a spirit of discord and party dissension has lately prevailed in some parts of this county, particularly about Killeter, the fatal effects of which were on Tuesday last (being the fair day of Killeter) unhappily exemplified. On the morning of that day, the Longfield corps of cavalry and infantry went to the fair, in consequence, it is said, of a report that a large body of countrymen intended to collect there for the purpose of rioting. In the course of the day, a dispute arose about the payment of customs, and some of the cavalry were dispatched to quell the riot. In their progress to the scene of action, much confusion ensued in the crowded streets, and several people were thrown down; and it being reported that a poor old woman had been killed by the carelessness of the yeomen, the crowd began to follow the cavalry, and throw stones at them. They retreated to the high part of the street, and sounded the bugle for the infantry to join them, who were also assailed in the same manner by the populace, and some of them severely hurt; this conduct so exasperated the yeomanry, that they fired among the crowd, when, unfortunately, four people were killed on the spot, and twelve severely wounded. These are all the particulars of this unfortunate affair which we have yet learnt. (Belfast Paper.)

29. On the 20th of June last, captain Wyse, of the *Modesty*,

which arrived at Waterford, on the 20th instant, spoke the wreck of the brig *Polly*, of Boston, in lat. 31. 56. N. long. 37. 40. W. and took off two men, who had subsisted for one hundred and ninety-one days on the wreck, during which period they had eaten one of their companions. The *Polly* sailed from Boston on the 12th of December, bound to Santa Cruz, in the West Indies. On the 15th, she sprung a leak, carried away all her masts, and upset, by which Mr. J. S. Hunt, supercargo, and a negro girl, were lost. The brig afterwards righted, but, of the crew, which, including passengers, consisted of nine persons, seven perished upon the wreck, and the other two must have inevitably shared the same fate, had they not been fortunately extricated from a state of unexampled suffering and peril, by capt. Wyse.

30. A very superb entertainment was given by the duke and duchess of York, on Thursday, at Oatlands. The dukes of Clarence, Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, arrived there in the course of the morning. The Prince Regent and the Duke of Cumberland arrived soon after two o'clock. At half-past two the royal family of the Bourbons arrived, consisting of the count de Lille, Monsieur his brother, the duke d'Angouleme, son to Monsieur, the duchess d'Angouleme, daughter to Louis XVI. and the duke de Berri, the prince of Condé, the princess de Condé, the duke de Bourbon, the duchess de Serrent, and the duke de Grammont. They were received in all due form, by the duke and duchess of York and their attendants, and were conducted

ducted to the grand room opposite the Thames.

The queen, and princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia, and Charlotte of Wales, arrived about three o'clock from Windsor, escorted by a party of life guards. They were received by the Prince Regent, and the duke and duchess of York, and conducted to the grand drawing-room, where they were formally introduced to the French princes. The duke of York's band was stationed in a marquee, on the lawn adjoining the drawing room; and on the entrance of the queen, they struck up "God save the King." Soon after four o'clock a most sumptuous dinner was served up in the grand dining-room. The duchess d'Angouleme sat between the queen and princess Charlotte of Wales; her majesty particularly directed her discourse to this interesting stranger.

In July, the celebrated classical scholar, Heyne, died at Gottingen, in the 83rd year of his age. He retained all his literary ardour to the last; and several persons had letters from him, written both in German and Latin, which were dated the evening before his death.

Statement of the number of barrels brewed by the twenty principal porter-houses, from July 5, 1811, to July 5, 1812.

	Barrels.
Barclay, Perkins, and Co.	270,259
Meux, Reids, and Co.	- 188,078
Hanbury and Co.	- 160,164
Whitbread and Co.	- 122,446
Calvert and Co.	- 108,212
Henry Meaux and Co.	- 102,493
Coombe and Co.	- 100,824
Goodwin and Co.	- 81,022
Elliott and Co.	- 58,035

Cox and Campbell (Gold-	
en-lane)	- - - - 51,274
Taylor	- - - - 51,220
Clowes and Co.	- - - 34,010
Hollingsworth and Co.	- 28,038
Martineau and Co.	- - 24,443
Hodgson	- - - - 24,142
Pryors	- - - - 20,210
Starkey	- - - - 18,136
Tickells	- - - - 18,051
Dickinson	- - - - 16,292
Green and Co.	- - - 14,890

Statement of the number of barrels of ale brewed by the eight principal ale brewers in the London district, from the 5th of July, 1811, to the 5th of July, 1812:—

Stretton, Broad-street, Gol-	
den-square	- - - - 24,362
Charrington and Co. Mile-	
end	- - - - 20,021
Wyatt, Portpool-lane	- - 18,067
Goding and Co. Knights-	
bridge	- - - - 13,055
Thorpe and Co. Clerken-	
well	- - - - 8,742
Webb and Co. St. Giles's	- 7,136
Davies, Lambeth	- - - 6,925
Hale and Co. Redcross-	
street	- - - - 6,653

AUGUST.

1. *Statement of the French Army.*
—Estimate of the numbers, allowing to each battalion 600 men, and to each squadron 200.

Infantry of the	
line, 610 bat-	
talions	- - 366,000
Light infantry,	
160 battalions	96,000
Cavalry, 332	
squadrons	- 66,400
	528,400

H 2

Auxiliaries,

	brought over	528,400
Auxiliaries, &c. &c.		
Infantry of the		
line, 162 bat-		
talions -	97,200	
Light infantry, 7		
battalions -	4,200	
Cavalry, 27 squa-		
drons -	5,400	

 106,800

 635,200

Exclusive of the	
troops in the	
artillery and	
engineer de-	
partments, of	
which there are	
French, 501	
companies,	
which taken at	
100 men each	50,100
In the auxiliaries,	
19 companies	1,900

 52,000

 Men 687,200

A lamentable accident happened in the small town of Villemur, near Toulouse. A house, which was re-building, suddenly fell, and in its fall pulled down another. A number of persons of different ages, and both sexes, were buried in the ruins. By great exertions and labour, twenty-three persons were dug out, of whom three were dead, killed at the instant of the fall, another died two days afterwards, and all the rest were more or less hurt. The landlord of one of the houses which fell was found in the cellar, with half his body buried in the ruins, but his head was secured by pieces of wood, which, crossing each other

as they fell, formed a kind of arch over him. In this situation he remained five hours, and heard the dying groans of a girl of sixteen, who expired over his head, crushed to death between the timbers, which, by the particular manner in which they fell, had saved his life. A mother, with a child in her arms, was killed by a blow from one of the falling beams, and her child fell at her feet. The cries of the little infant were heard, and it was at length got out, no otherwise hurt than by a few scratches on the face.

All the money on board the Abergavenny, lost some years ago near Weymouth, to the amount of 60,000*l.* in dollars, has been recovered by means of the diving-bell. The vessel has been since blown up, under water, so as to prevent the wreck from forming a dangerous shoal.

3. Government, in order to check the escape of French prisoners, as also the guinea export and smuggling system, gave orders, a few days since, for the seizure of all gallies of a certain description, carrying eight oars; seventeen were seized at Deal, ten at Folkestone, Sandgate, &c. They are a beautiful description of boats, about forty feet long, painted on the outside so as to elude the sight at sea in the night, so lightly constructed that nothing can catch them, and in calm weather they can row over to the French shore in two hours.

A memorial from some merchants interested in the trade of New South Wales, praying for leave to import direct from thence a considerable quantity of mother-of-pearl, and pearl shells, the produce

duce of a new fishery contiguous to Otaheite, was lately referred from the board of trade to the East India company. The directors refused their permission, unless the pearl shall be laden on board vessels chartered by the company from Botany Bay to China, and from thence to England with tea.

In the cause for non-residence, *Hardy v Hon. and Rev.—Cathcart*, tried last week at York, before Baron Wood, a verdict was found for the plaintiff with 930*l.* damages.

4. Last week, a shark of considerable length was caught with a strong conger line, at Devil's Point, Stonehouse, near Plymouth Dock: seven mackerel were found in his belly, and it is supposed to have been the same fish that the day before attacked a soldier of the Lancashire militia, who was swimming in Mill Bay, and wounded him severely in the legs. This should operate as a caution to swimmers, who reside on the shores washed by the Atlantic, as sharks are not unfrequent in the channel, and at this season pursue the shoals of mackerel and pilchards into the bay and harbours.

7. *Maidstone*.—William Brown, a private of the royal artillery, was indicted for the wilful murder of Isabella M'Guire, a child of the age of seven years. The circumstances of this case were of an extraordinary nature. The prisoner was servant to a lieutenant Webber, and bore a most exemplary character in the regiment; some things, however, had been stolen from his master's closet, and he was suspected of the theft. He absented himself all the night of the

4th of April, and on the morning of the 5th, as early as between five and six he came back to the barracks, and wakened a person of the name of Jefferys, with whom he had lived. After some preliminary conversation, he told him he had committed a crime for which he must be hanged, and desired to be taken to the guard-house. Adam Little, serjeant-major, there received him in custody; and desiring to speak to the serjeant in private, he then told him, that the last night he had murdered a little girl. The serjeant desired him to state further particulars. He said, that getting over a style, which led into a lane, he saw the child at play, who cried when she saw him; that he then took the child in his arms, and with his finger and thumb strangled it. As soon as it was dead, he carried it under his arm for some distance, and laid it on some stone steps in a place he described.

A witness was called, who found the child in a place where the prisoner had described he had left it; and the surgeon stated, that by the marks under the throat, the child had evidently been strangled in the manner described by the prisoner.

The prisoner could ascribe no motive for this act; but told the serjeant he had no malice against the child, and could not tell how he came to do it.

Mr. Curwood, as counsel for the prisoner, examined as to whether the prisoner might not be labouring under temporary inflammation of the brain, from the improper use of mercurial medicine.

The serjeant said, he knew the prisoner had administered mercury and

and laudanum to himself, without medical advice, but he did not know in what quantities.

The lord chief baron, in summing up the evidence, stated, that the mere atrocity of the act itself must not be considered evidence of insanity, otherwise the most guilty criminals would escape, and here was evidence much too slight to infer any derangement of mind.

The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he received sentence to be executed on the Monday.

8. Four fine children, belonging to Richard Builth, a day-labourer, of Abbeydore, were consumed by fire in their father's cottage, on Thursday se'nnight. Their mother had hired herself at a neighbour's house to bake bread, and left her children in the cottage, desiring the oldest, who was only five years of age, to take care of the others, the youngest of whom was a sucking child. It could not be known how the house caught fire, for the whole was in a conflagration before it was discovered.

10. Since the abolition of the slave trade, about 2,000 negroes have been rescued from slave ships by our cruisers. These men are now at Goree, and it is from them that the West India regiments are to be recruited.

12. *Liverpool*.—This afternoon the inhabitants of this town were gratified with the long-expected ascent of this intrepidaëronaut. Several hours before the time fixed for the ascent, crowds of people had occupied all the lanes and avenues leading to the ground which was a convenient inclosed field, near St. Domingo, about a mile and a half from the town.

At twelve the town was nearly deserted; and the shops being almost universally shut, it wore the aspect of Sunday, but with scarcely a person in the streets. The balloon was inflated within the inclosed area, which was partitioned off into three divisions, for the admission of spectators, at fixed prices. Here upwards of two thousand persons were assembled. The operation of filling the balloon commenced about ten o'clock, and after it was inflated, the car was attached to it, and Mr. Sadler placed himself in his vehicle, amidst the acclamations of the spectators.

"The ascent, which took place at half past two, was sublime; not rapid, but deliberate and graceful; exhibiting the beautiful proportions of the whole vehicle, and the decorations of the car. The wind took the aëronaut in a south-east direction, towards Knowsley-park; but as it was not Mr. Sadler's intention to travel far, he attained his highest altitude in about twenty minutes, at which time the balloon itself was reduced to a very diminutive size, and the car was totally invisible.

"The approach of the balloon to the earth was soon after apparent, and the descent was gradual and majestic. We suppose the actual descent to have taken place in the neighbourhood of Knowsley-park, about four miles from this."—*Liverpool Courier*.

On this day, the birth-day of the prince regent, the first stone of the Breakwater, in Plymouth Sound, was lowered down. At ten o'clock in the morning two boats from every ship in Harbouroaze attended at the admiral's stairs,

stairs, Mount Wise. About noon the commander in chief, sir R. Calder, accompanied by admiral sir E. Buller, bart. and all the captains or commanders of his majesty's vessels in commission at this port, rowed off in procession, with flags and streamers flying, passing between the island and the main, and rounding the eastern end of Drake's island on their passage towards the outer part of the Sound.

The mayor and corporation of Plymouth also went in procession to the Barbican-stairs, where they took water, and also proceeded to the sound. A vast number of boats from the shore were scattered over the Sound; and the ships of war were decorated with the colours of different nations—the Standard of the United Kingdom flying over the whole. Towards one o'clock the boats assembled round the vessel that held the stone (about four tons weight). The Camel store-ship gave the signal, by firing a gun; and the stone was lowered to its base, at the western extremity of the Breakwater, amid a royal salute of cannon from the ships in Cawsand Bay, Plymouth Sound, and Hamoaze.

The scene, heightened by the beauty of a fine day, was charming beyond description; the grand open bosom of the Sound was crowded by an immense number of pleasure-boats, cutters, barges, &c.; the men of war, in commemoration of the birth-day of the prince, bearing the royal standard at the main, were decorated with numerous and variegated flags, and formed a pleasing picture, surrounded as they were by the

numberless parties sailing around them.

13. At the late Lewes assizes, James Robinson, who holds a mill in the neighbourhood of Oswestry; John Hughes, landlord of the Red Lion, and post-master at Rye; and William Hatter, fisherman of that town, were convicted before the right honourable lord Ellenborough, of a conspiracy to effect the escape of general Phillippon, and lieutenant Garnier, two French officers, who, in breach of their parole of honour, absconded from Oswestry, on the 30th of June last. The evidence adduced in support of this charge satisfied the jury, not only that these men were guilty of this conspiracy, but that Robinson and Hatter had actually conveyed the two Frenchmen to the enemy's coast; and the jury, without hesitation, found them guilty. His lordship, in a most impressive manner, after expatiating on the enormity of this offence, which he declared was scarcely to be distinguished from high-treason, adjudged Robinson and Hughes to be confined in the common gaol of the county of Sussex, for the space of two years, and within the first month to be placed in and upon the pillory on the sea-shore, near the town of Rye, and as near as could be with in sight of the French coast, that they might be viewed, as his lordship observed, by those enemies of their country, whom they had by their conduct so much befriended: and Hatter, having been on the same day convicted of an offence, for which he had been sentenced to be imprisoned for twelve calendar months, was adjudged to be imprisoned in the same gaol for the

the space of two years, to be computed from the expiration of his first sentence.

“Sheffield.”—This day our town has been in a state of confusion and riot, which has not yet ceased.

Lord Milton, the earl of Effingham, Messrs. Wortley, Parker, and Corbett, justices of the peace, are all now here. The horse soldiers are parading the streets, and the militia are under arms. The populace have drawn up a paper, which they have called upon the flour-dealers to sign, engaging that they will sell flour at three shillings per stone; and threatening them, if they do not, to destroy their premises. I believe most of them have complied; and there have been some hundred stones sold at that price this afternoon, in all parts of the town. Some flour-dealers have certainly lost this day hundreds of pounds, by their being obliged to sell it at reduced prices. Lord Milton made a speech to the populace, and told them they must endeavour to wait until the harvest was got in; at which they were much infuriated. The mob threw several stones at his lordship, but the military protected him. Some of them threatened to proceed to Wentworth-house. What seems most alarming is, that every night there are meetings of the mob in the vicinity of the town: I trust, however, all will be settled peaceably. It is now ten o'clock at night, and the town seems tolerably tranquil. Flour of late has sold for seven shillings per stone, nearly treble to what it is sold for on ordinary occasions.”

The following curious phenomena were witnessed at Giessen, in the circle of the Upper Rhine:

—On the 13th of August, after continued sultry weather, a piece of woody ground, comprising twelve English acres, suddenly sunk about five feet; on the 20th it fell two feet more; on the 24th it sunk another foot, and continued giving way, almost imperceptibly, until, by the 4th of September it had sunk fifteen feet. This frightful chasm remained near a week, and was visited by thousands. On the 12th the surface of the land became marshy; since which water was observed to rise, and by the 19th, it had entirely filled the vacuity, and presented a level sheet of water.

16. The minister of Rothsay brought an action of trespass, in the Court of Exchequer, at Edinburgh, against a person employed by the collector of assessed and property taxes, for levying the same contrary to the laws of the ancient realm of Scotland. The reverend gentleman pleaded exemption as a clergyman of the established church of Scotland, in virtue of certain acts of the Scottish parliament, which, he contended, exempted the Scottish clergy from payment of all taxes, past, present, and to come. On the part of the crown, it was answered, that no such exemption was ever given by the acts in question; and should they have even happened to contain any such favourable clause, the whole had been unconditionally surrendered at the Union. The court was occupied two entire day upon this serious question, when an opinion was unanimously given, that the clergy had no right whatever to the exemption claimed.

19. The illuminations in London, on

on account of lord Wellington's victory, which commenced on Monday the 17th, were continued for three days, and were attended with much disorder and mischief. The lord mayor incurred considerable blame on this occasion, for having sent notice to an evening paper, on the third day, signifying his intention of particularly illuminating the Mansion-house on that night.

French Prisoners.—As a proof of the good treatment of the prisoners of war in this country, the following comparative statement of those sick and in health will be the best answer to the calumnies of the *Moniteur* :—

Thursday, August 20.

	In health.	Sick.
On board prison-ships		
Hamoaze - -	6100	61
In Dartmoor depot	7500	74

This small proportion of sick is not the common average of persons not confined as prisoners of war. At Dartmoor depot 500 prisoners, such as labourers, carpenters, smiths, &c. are allowed to work from sun-rise to sun-set; they are paid 4d. and 6d. per day, according to their abilities, and have each their daily rations of provisions, viz. a pound and a half of bread, half a pound of boiled beef, half a pound of cabbage, and a proportion of soup and small beer. They wear a tin plate in their caps, with the title of the trade they are employed in, and return every evening to the depot to be mustered.

20. *Mr. Mungo Park.*—The following interesting extract from a periodical publication, contains the particulars of the melancholy end of this enterprising traveller :—

“ The last accounts of Mr. Park, from himself, were from Sansanding, on the Niger, whence he transmitted his journal to the government. The African Institution are about to publish this immediately, for the benefit of his unfortunate family. Along with Mr. Park's Journals, will be published than of Isaac, a native Mahometan, who having accompanied him to Sansanding, was afterwards sent by governor Maxwell to procure some account of his fate—he returned to Senegal, after an absence of twenty months, and made his report in writing. From it we extract the following account of Mr. Park's death, as given to Isaac, by Amadee-Fatouma, who accompanied him from Sansanding on board a large schooner-rigged canoe, in which he had undertaken the navigation of the river to its mouth. Amadee Fatouma accompanied him till two or three days after he had reached the kingdom of Haoussa.

“ Next day,” says he, “ Mr. Park departed, and I slept in the village (Yaour). Next morning I went to the king to pay my respects to him. On entering the house, I found two men, who came on horseback; they were sent by the chief of Yaour. They said to the king, ‘ We are sent by the chief of Yaour, to let you know, that the white men went away, without giving you or him (the chief) any thing—they have a great many things with them, and we have received nothing from them; and this Amadee-Fatouma, now before you, is a bad man, and has likewise made a fool of you both.’ The king immediately ordered me to be put in irons, which was accordingly

cordingly done, and every thing I had, taken from me—some were for killing me, and some were for preserving my life. The next morning the king sent an army to a village called Boussa, near the river's side—there is before this village a rock, across the whole breadth of the river—one part of the rock is very high: there is a large opening in this rock, in the form of a door, which is the only passage for the water to pass through: the tide current is here very strong, the army went and took possession of the top of this opening. Mr. Park came there after the army had posted itself: he nevertheless attempted to pass. The people began to attack him, throwing lances, pikes, arrows, and stones. Mr. Park defended himself for a long time: two of his slaves, at the stern of the canoe, were killed—they threw every thing they had in the canoe into the river, and kept firing; but being overpowered by numbers and fatigue, and unable to keep up the canoe against the current, and no probability of escaping, Mr. Park took hold of one of the white men and jumped into the water—Martin did the same, and they were drowned in the stream in attempting to escape. The only slave remaining in the boat, seeing the natives persist in throwing weapons at the canoe, stood up, and said to them, 'Stop throwing now; you see nothing in the canoe, and nobody but myself; therefore cease. Take me and the canoe, but don't kill me.' They took possession of the canoe and the man, and carried them to the king.

"I was kept in irons three

months; the king then released me, and gave me a female slave. I immediately went to the slave taken in the canoe, who told me in what manner Mr. Park and all of them had died, and what I have related above.'

21. *Chester*.—Wednesday, his majesty's justices of assize, R. Dallas and F. Burton, esqrs. arrived at the Castle, and immediately opened their commission.

This day they proceeded to the trial of John Lomas and Edith Morrey, both of whom were accused of the murder of her husband. After the trial had occupied the court nearly seven hours, the prisoners were both convicted, and ordered for execution on Monday, the 24th instant. On receiving his sentence, Lomas stretched out his hand, and exclaimed—"I deserve it all—I don't wish to live—but I hope for mercy." He maintained the greatest composure throughout the trial. Mrs. Morrey, the miserable widow, pleaded pregnancy: a jury of matrons was empaneled, and they returned a true bill. Her execution, therefore, will most likely be put off till the commencement of the ensuing year. She maintained the same composure on her trial which she all along manifested; and, with the exception of the unusual heat, did not seem at all incommoded.

Another account.—The trial of Lomas and Edith Morrey occupied the court from eight in the morning till two in the afternoon. The hall was crowded to suffocation, and the heat was extreme. Edith Morrey, the female prisoner, when first brought to the bar, had a veil before her face, but it was ordered to be taken off. She covered her face

face during the whole of the trial with her handkerchief; and most of the time reclined her head on the front of the bar. Throughout the whole of the awful proceedings she preserved a sullen unmoved hardness. We understand, that during her examination by the matrons, she shed tears. She does not appear, from the time of her imprisonment, to have entertained apprehensions of being convicted. Last week, it seems, she purchased some articles of wearing apparel, and spoke confidently of going home as on Saturday last. Lomas, from his first being taken into custody, to the period of trial, openly and unreservedly confessed the crime in all its circumstances.

22. *Bristol.*—The following most disgraceful and inhuman conduct was witnessed last week in this city. On Wednesday, as one of the serjeants of the Leitrim militia was walking, between eight and nine o'clock, through St. James's church-yard, he was accosted by a man, who asked him if he belonged to the Irish militia regiment quartered in Bristol. His answer was, that he did. He then asked him how he liked this country; he replied very much. He then began to abuse the serjeant, by damning him and every one from his country; when a second man came behind him, and with a carving knife, or some similar instrument, cut the sinews of his right leg in so dreadful a manner, that the poor fellow has not been able to be removed from the public-house to which he was immediately conveyed. The serjeant recollects well the face of the man who spoke to him. His deposition as to the facts stated, has, we

understand, been properly taken down, and we trust that the miscreants will be soon discovered. The serjeant bears a most excellent character in his regiment; indeed the conduct of the whole regiment, since they have been among us, has been truly exemplary.

25. *Dublin.*—On Monday morning last, as Pierce O'Brien Butler, esq. of Dunboyne-castle, and his family, consisting of Mrs. Butler and their two daughters, were proceeding on their way from Caher to Michaelstown, on the road to Mallow, they were stopped within two hundred yards of Tincurry-gate, and within sight of four or five cabins (some of whose inhabitants were looking on at the transaction), by a single footpad, armed with a blunderbuss, who demanded their money. Mr. Butler perceiving from the fellow's manner that he was no veteran in the business; parlied with him to gain time, not being armed; when the fellow called out to a colleague to come forward; and, on Mr. Butler's looking round, he immediately saw the second freebooter in a ditch, armed also with a short blunderbuss on the rest, and levelled at his (Mr. Butler's) person. Mr. Butler then gave the first assailant his watch, with which he thought to satisfy him; and the ruffian looked at and examined it, during which his comrade saying something to him, he threw back the watch, and swore vehemently that he would lodge the contents of the blunderbuss in Mr. Butler's body, unless he instantly gave up his money. Mr. Butler, however, escaped by giving up eight guinea notes which he had loose in one of his waistcoat pockets: very luckily

luckily for himself, he had contrived, while the robber was examining his watch, to slip his pocket-book, containing nearly 300*l.* in notes, under the cushion of the seat.

25. This morning, at 2*o*'clock, an alarming fire broke out at Mr. Holland's, tallow-chandler, South Audley-street, Grovesnor-square. It began in the back melting warehouse, in Reeves's Mews, and three of the adjoining stables were soon burnt to the ground. There were nearly 400 tons of tallow on the premises, all of which were consumed, and, of course, added greatly to the fury of the flames. Fifty chaldron of coals, belonging to a retail dealer in that article, were also consumed. The following are some of the houses which have been destroyed or damaged on this occasion:—That of Messrs. Stodart and Bolton, Coach-makers, —the carriages all saved; the house of madame Jaymond, milliner, has sustained much damage; that of Mr. Parsons, baker, Monnt-street, burnt, and, a quantity of flour; Mr. Teby's stables, and Mr. Butcher's slaughter-houses, in Reeves's Mews, totally consumed; the house of Mr. Owen, tinman, much damaged. The 3*rd* guards, from Portman barracks, and the members of various volunteer associations, attended with great alacrity, and greatly assisted the firemen in their exertions. A fireman was considerably bruised by the falling in of the roof of Mr. Holland's house, but no lives were lost.

An interesting occurrence took place at Folkingham. A poor woman, who had obtained a pass billet to remain there all night, was sitting by the fire of the kit-

chen of the Greyhound inn, with an infant child at her breast, when two chimney-sweeps came in, who had been engaged to sweep some of the chimneys belonging to the inn early next morning. They were, according to custom treated with a supper, which they had begun to eat, when the younger, a boy about seven years of age, happening to cast his eyes upon the woman (who had been likewise viewing them with a fixed attention from their first entrance), started up, and exclaimed in a frantic tone—"That's my mother!" and immediately flew into her arms! It appears that her name is Mary Davies, and that she is the wife of a private in the 2*nd* regiment of foot guards, now serving in the Peninsula; she resides in Westminster; her husband quitted her to embark for foreign service on the 20*th* of last January; and on the 28*th* of the same month she left her son in the care of a woman who occupied the front rooms of her house, while she went to wash for a family in the neighbourhood; on her return in the evening, the woman had decamped with her son, and, notwithstanding every effort was made to discover their retreat, they had not since been heard of; but having lately been informed that the woman was a native of Leeds, she had come to the resolution of going there in search of her child, and with this view had walked from London to Folkingham (106 miles) with an infant not more than six weeks old in her arms. The boy's master stated that about the latter end of last January, he met a woman and boy in the vicinity of Sleaford, where he resides; she appeared

peared very ragged, and otherwise much distressed, and was at that time beating the boy most severely: she then accosted him, the master, saying she was in great distress, and a long way from home; and after some further preliminary conversation, said, if he would give her two guineas to enable her to get home, she would bind her son apprentice to him; this proposal was agreed to, and the boy was regularly indentured, the woman having previously made affidavit as to being his own mother. This testimony was corroborated by the boy himself; but as no doubt remained in the mind of any one respecting the boy's real mother, his master, without further ceremony, resigned him to her. The inhabitants interested themselves very humanely in the poor woman's behalf, by not only paying her coach-fare back to London (her children having been freed by one of the proprietors), but also by collecting for her the sum of 2*l.* 5*s.*

26. At the Lancaster assizes, Mr. Martin Lolley was found guilty of bigamy. The first marriage was proved to have been solemnised in England some years ago; and the second was contracted in the beginning of the present year, the first wife being alive. On the prisoner's behalf several witnesses were examined, by whom it was proved, that previous to the second marriage, a divorce had been sued for, and obtained, in Scotland, by the first wife, on the ground of adultery. Mr. Duncan, a writer to the signet, and a solicitor in the Scotch ecclesiastical court, was examined as to the mode of proceeding in such cases; and it appeared, that previous to a divorce

being obtained it is always customary and necessary to have evidence of the real grounds upon which the pursuer seeks for the divorce, and also to hear the demurrer's reasons why it should not be given. He said there had been numerous instances of divorces being obtained in that manner, and recognized as legal; but on his being asked whether he ever knew of an English marriage being dissolved by the decree of the Scotch ecclesiastical court, he said he could not recollect an instance. The jury, by the direction of his lordship, brought in a verdict of guilty; but reserved the case for the consideration of the twelve judges.

27. *Huddersfield*.—Last Friday night, about fifty men, all armed with guns, went to the house of Mr. Edward Hepworth, a farmer at Sheepridge, about two miles from Huddersfield, and after breaking open his door with an iron mall, they demanded a gun; but on being told he had no fire-arms, they insisted that he should reduce the price of his corn and milk; and then proceeding to destroy his furniture, they broke to pieces his clock, tables, and every thing of value in his house. After this wanton outrage, they proceeded to several other houses in that neighbourhood, where they committed similar depredations, and then dispersed. We have now upwards of 1,000 soldiers in this town: the publicans are very much distressed to accommodate them. There are only about thirty-three public-houses in the town, so that each house has, on an average, upwards of thirty soldiers. How long this is to continue we cannot tell.

Wick.—The herring-fishery in this neighbourhood is going on successfully.

successfully. Nothing can be more pleasing than to see the bustle which this occasions, and the number of vessels constantly going backwards and forwards. In the new harbour there were above 40 sail at one time; and it is supposed that there are from 5 to 600 boats employed in the herring-fishing on the coast, above 100 of which are from the southern parts of Scotland, and some from Northumberland.

29. *Leeds*.—It must be satisfactory to every well-wisher to quiet and good order, to know from the most unquestionable authority, that not less than a thousand men, to whom illegal oaths had been administered, have, within the last four or five days flocked to the magistracy at and near Stockport, to abjure those oaths, and to take the oath of allegiance.

Union-Hall.—A man of decent appearance applied to the sitting magistrate, under symptoms of great distress of mind, for redress of various injuries inflicted upon him by a person, who, he said, had long held him in subjection by the power of witchcraft. The person complained of, had, for some time, been his opposite neighbour; and although it had been his (the complainant's) constant study not to offend him, being well aware of the influence he possessed with the powers of darkness, yet he had, in some way or other, been so unfortunate as to incur his displeasure; and severely he had suffered for it both in person and property; as the wizard had at different times destroyed his clothes, tainted his provisions, prevented the smoke ascending the chimnies, soured the liquor in his cellar, and on various

occasions, when the complainant has been under the necessity of going out on business, had so fascinated his powers of vision, that on his return home, all his efforts to discover his own door had proved ineffectual. These circumstances had obliged him to remove from the Kent-road to Westminster; but even by that he had not escaped the power of his enemy, who still retained his influence, and exerted it in a manner yet more painful to him, by inflicting upon him gouty and rheumatic pains, and torturing him in various ways. Under all these circumstances, he entreated the magistrate to cite the magician before his tribunal, and to inflict such pains and penalties upon him as should prevent his disturbing society for the future. The magistrate promised to comply with his request, and advised him in the mean time to go home, and rest satisfied that no effort in his power should be wanting to prevent the evil spirit troubling him in future. With this assurance, the complainant declared himself perfectly satisfied, and said, he felt that in consequence of his having thrown himself on the protection of the Bench, the pains with which he had for so long a time been afflicted were very much abated.

31. A court-martial was held in the Downs, on the hon. Henry Blackwood, commander of his majesty's ship *Warspite*, upon a charge of having caused the death of a master of a merchant schooner in the Mediterranean, by ordering several guns to be fired into her. The merchant vessel, it appeared, was going up the Mediterranean, when captain Blackwood was coming down with a convoy, and the usual

usual means were taken to bring her to; but the master of the schooner persisted in his course, and made more sail. As captain B. had to protect his convoy against several privateer schooners which he knew were near, he considered it imperious on him to ascertain that this was not one of those vessels, which might intend in the evening to come down upon the rear of his convoy. He, consequently, cast off a transport he had in tow, went in chase of the schooner, and, with several of the convoy which were armed, fired at her, when, unfortunately, the master was killed. The vessel was then brought to the wind. The mate of the schooner immediately made a representation of the circumstance to the Admiralty, and capt. B.'s conduct was ordered to be investigated by a court-martial. On the day mentioned it came on; but neither the mate nor any other person belonging to the schooner appeared to substantiate the alleged charge of murder, though proper notice had been given them of the trial. The court (of which admiral Foley sat as president), upon a recital of the circumstances, not only acquitted capt. B. of any blame whatever, but adjudged his conduct to have been strictly correct, and that he could not have acted otherwise.

SEPTEMBER.

1. The old Parliament House of Perth was lately taken down to make room for a new House. Last week the workmen, who

were employed in digging a vault for the intended structure, discovered a large quantity of silver coins, about eighteen inches below the surface of the street. They were in a state of oxidation, and many of them adhering together in a lump. They seem to be chiefly English and Scotch pennies of the 13th century. Among them is a coin of John Baliol.

4. In the beginning of last week an immense shoal of herrings appeared on the coast near Peterhead; and on Tuesday and Wednesday, not less than from 800 to 1,000 barrels were taken for salting. In consequence of such an extraordinary supply, fresh herrings were sold at a penny per dozen in the market. Numerous whales, of the species called finners, followed the shoal.

Several hundred hogsheds of pilchards were taken in Mount's Bay in the early part of last week. A great quantity of hake, pollock, conger, &c. have also been taken on the coast. Wednesday se'night the seans at Mevaggissey had inclosed 1,000 hogsheds of pilchards. This very seasonable supply of fish, together with a plentiful crop of potatoes, has greatly relieved the poor in Cornwall from the pressure occasioned by the high price of corn.

As some labourers were a few days ago cleaning out a pit at Woodseaves, near Drayton, in this county, they discovered a coat of mail, extending from the neck to the girdle, which weighed 26 lb. It is in excellent preservation; the leathern thongs which buckle it on, and the gold or gilding on the seams, being nearly as fresh as ever. As a battle was fought at Blore-heath

Blore-heath, in the year 1459, between the united forces of the duke of York and the earl of Salisbury, and those of the king commanded by lord Audley, who was beaten about four miles from this spot, the coat might possibly have been thrown away by one of the soldiers of the routed army—(*Salop Journal.*)

In the neighbourhood of Ville-neuve, Switzerland, a part of the eastern chain of the Fourches, which had been sapped by a stream that ran at its base, suddenly fell with a terrific noise. About thirty cottages were buried beneath the ruins, and twelve of their inmates killed. The noise of the fall was heard at the distance of six miles.

Sunbury, (United States.)—On Sunday last, a man by the name of Walton, from Luzerne county, entered the court-house of this town, took a seat at the council table, produced shaving apparatus, and was about commencing the operation of shaving his beard (which had not been taken off for upwards of three years, and was nearly a foot in length). His strange conduct and appearance attracted the attention of the court, and every person present. The court, to prevent interruption, ordered the man to be taken away. He resisted, and was at length indulged by the court. He said he had been commanded by his Maker to do it on that very day, in presence of the court, and with the same razor which he produced. Warm water was provided, and he soon disencumbered himself of his beard—put up his shaving utensils, thanked the court for their indulgence, and walked off, seemingly pleased.

5. [*From the Leeds Mercury.*]

A number of nocturnal depredations have been this week committed in the parish of Halifax. In the night between Saturday and Sunday last, a party of arms-stealers entered the house of Mr. Haigh, of Skircoats, and took from him three stand of arms. On Monday night, three of the peaceable inhabitants of Thornhill, near Brighouse, were each plundered of a gun. The same night a blunderbuss was fired into the house of Mr. Waddington, of Brighouse, corn-miller, and seven bullets lodged in the ceiling of his bedroom: a musket was also fired into the parlour window, and a large discharge of duck shot lodged in the room. And last Thursday night a mill at Southowram, where woollen cloth is dressed by machinery, was attacked by a number of men, amounting, it is supposed, to about 100, who, after securing the watchman, broke 17 pairs of shears. At half-past one o'clock in the morning the picquet passed the mill, when all was safe; but the depredation was committed with so much address and celerity, that on their return at two o'clock, the mischief was effected and the offenders completely dispersed. One man was taken up and detained on suspicion.

Bartholomew Fair.—The scene of riot, confusion, and horror, exhibited at this motley festival, on this night, has seldom, if ever, been exceeded. The influx of all classes of labourers who had received their week's wages, and had come to the spot, was immense. At ten o'clock every avenue leading through the conspicuous parts of the fair was crammed

cramped with an impenetrable mass of human creatures. Those who were in the interior of the crowd, howsoever distressed, could not be extricated; while those who were on the outside, were exposed to the most imminent danger of being crushed to death against the booths. The females, hundreds of whom there were, who happened to be intermixed with the mob, were treated with the greatest indignity, in defiance of the exertions of husbands, relatives, or friends. This weaker part of the crowd, in fact, seemed to be, on this occasion, the principal object of persecution, or, as the savages who attacked them were pleased to call it, of *fun*. Some fainted and were trodden under foot, while others, by an exertion almost supernatural, produced by an agony of despair, forced their way to the top of the mass, and crept on the heads of the people until they reached the booths, where they were received and treated with the greatest kindness. We lament to state that many serious accidents in consequence occurred: legs and arms innumerable were broken, some lives were lost, and the surgeons of St. Bartholomew's Hospital were occupied the whole of the night in administering assistance to the unfortunate objects who were continually brought in to them. The most distressing scene that we observed, arose from the suffocation of a child about a twelvemonth old, in the arms of its mother, who, with others, had been involved in the crowd. The wretched mother did not discover the state of her infant until she reached Giltspur-street, when she rent the air with her shrieks of self-reproach; while

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her husband, who accompanied her, and who had the appearance of a decent tradesman, stood mute with the dead body of his child in his arms, which he regarded with a look of indescribable agony. Such are the heart-rending and melancholy scenes which were exhibited, and yet this forms but a faint picture of the enormities and miseries attendant upon this disgraceful festival. The pick-pockets were, as usual, active, and in many cases eminently successful in their gleanings. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Mr. Holdsworth and Mr. Nalder, the city marshals, and their officers, for their activity and zeal in preserving the public peace. All that men could do, in their difficult situation, they did; and many who were apprehended by their vigilance will this day undergo examinations before the magistrate at Guildhall.

8. The French prisoners at Dartmoor depôt, on Sunday last, had worked themselves up to the highest pitch of rage at having a pound and a half of biscuit, and not bread, per day. The use of biscuit, it is to be observed, was to be discontinued as soon as the bakehouse had been rebuilt; but the Frenchmen were absolutely deaf to remonstrances. A detachment of the Cheshire militia, and of the South Gloucester regiment, was drawn up on the walls surrounding the prison; and, although they had loaded their pieces with ball, the prisoners appeared undaunted, and insulted them in the grossest terms. A sentinel on duty had his bayonet wrenched off his piece, yet nobly reserved his fire; an officer, however, followed the Frenchman, struck him over the shoulder with

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his

his sword, and brought off the bayonet. The Frenchmen even bared their breasts to the troops, and seemed regardless of danger. The number of prisoners is about 7,500; and so menacing was their conduct, that an express was sent off to Plymouth Dock, at eleven o'clock on Sunday night, soliciting immediate assistance. Three pieces of artillery were in consequence sent off early on Monday morning; and on their arrival at the principal gate, the bars of which, of immense size, had been previously broken by stones hurled against them by the insurgents, they were placed in such directions as completely to command the whole of the circle which the prison describes. This had the desired effect, and order was restored. It is to be noticed that the allowance of bread at which these men have so indignantly spurned, is precisely the same as that which is served out to our own sailors and marines.

A horrid murder was committed on Tuesday, the 9th instant, in the neighbourhood of Tre-Madoc, Caernarvonshire. A man named Thomas Davies, who lodged at the house of a small farmer, robbed the cottage of his host, while the family were occupied in harvest-work at a short distance. Before he had completed his plunder, the daughter came home for the purpose of carrying provisions to her father; Davies immediately seized the young woman, and with a pair of shears, stabbed her seven or eight times, and finally cut her throat with them. The girl not returning in due time, the brother was dispatched to ascertain the cause of her delay; as he approached the house, he saw the

murderer washing his face, which he said he had cut by falling down a rock. From this and other circumstances of his guilt, he was apprehended; but while being conveyed before a magistrate, he effected his escape, and fled to the mountains; he was, however, again apprehended next day, and the property stolen from the cottage (which he had previously secreted in a field) was then found in his possession. He is committed to Dolgelly gaol for trial. The criminal is 68 years of age, and six feet two inches high; he had worked at Paris Mountain, in Anglesey, 14 years, and from his astonishing muscular power, was called "The King of the Mountains." The uncle of the murdered girl, when searching after the villain, accidentally fell from a precipice, and was killed.

11. Several violent shocks of an earthquake were felt at Florence. The only damage done, was the almost entire demolition of the church of St. Quirino.

12. *Leeds.*—On Monday morning, about one o'clock, the woollen manufactory of Messrs. Richard Lindsey and Sons, of Gildersome, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, was attacked by a number of men, who, after breaking open the doors, destroyed 17 pair of shears, of the best kind, and greatly injured the machinery used in raising and dressing the cloth. This depredation was completed without lights, and the time occupied in its perpetration did not exceed 12 minutes.

The depredation at Southowram, on Thursday the 13rd instant, was committed on the mill of Messrs. Waterhouse. On this occasion no shears were broken; but two gig mills were destroyed with their

their furniture, and the windows of Mr. Broadbent, the superintendant of the works, were much shattered.

A letter from Huddersfield, under date of the 10th instant, says, "Several persons have been apprehended on various charges of Ludism, and are now in custody here. A number of others have this week abjured their illegal oath, and taken the oath of allegiance; they see the calamities they have brought upon themselves and neighbours by the atrocious depredations they have committed, and the delusions they have laboured under; and it is to be hoped they will all follow the laudable example of these their associates, in discharging themselves from that unlawful and ruinous system in which they have unfortunately been engaged, and return to their duty and allegiance before it is too late."

14. *Milford*.—A most horrid murder was committed this day, on the body of James Dean, in the service of Mr. Waters, who plies the passage from Bulwell to Milford. A person, about 40 years of age, five feet nine inches high, dressed in a blue jacket and trousers, stout made, of very dark complexion, and who has lost a part of one of his great toes, describing himself as a sailor, came to Mr. Water's house at Bulwell last night, saying that he had come from Tenby, was looking for a ship, and requested a night's lodging, which he was accommodated with; and this morning, about six o'clock, hearing Mr. Waters give his boy 36 shillings, with directions to go to Milford, the stranger said he would go over and try to get a birth; and if he could not succeed, he would give

the boy his breakfast, and return with him to see what he could do at Angle. It happened to be a very thick fog, and the cries of murder were distinctly heard from the Milford shore; they were supposed to proceed from some boy on board a vessel, chastised by the master; however, some time after, similar cries were again heard, and a boat was discovered by an artilleryman near the shore, from which proceeded the cries of murder, but in a fainter voice, and a cask or something else was thrown into the water, after which the boat put off, and was obscured in the thick fog. The soldier alarmed some of the neighbours, and in about an hour afterwards the Bulwell passage-boat was discovered near Hubberstone with a great quantity of blood in it. Every possible exertion was used by the magistrates in order to detect the murderer. About nine o'clock, the body of the unfortunate boy was picked up, his throat being cut in a shocking manner, with other marks of violence.

The man who murdered the boy, was taken on Tuesday morning by a party of artillerymen at Templeton, on the road to Tenby.

Boston.—A fatal occurrence took place in the afternoon of Thursday last, in Swineshead North Fen, the particulars of which are as follow: About four in the afternoon of Thursday, as George Daybell, farmer in Swineshead, and Charles Roberts, a labourer, were reaping wheat, four Irishmen came up to them and asked for work as reapers. The road was close to the field where Daybell and Roberts were reaping, and one of the Irishmen, who was in liquor, got over the ditch, and was inclined to be very

quarrelsome. Being told by Daybell that he had no work for him, he began to cut off the ears of the wheat with his sickle, and throw them about the field. Daybell expostulated with him, and requested him to desist and seek for work elsewhere, which at length he consented to do, and with his companions went away. In passing Robert's house, however, which is hard by, the Irishman wantonly plunged his sickle into a pig which belonged to Roberts, and which was on the road at the time. The children of Roberts, on seeing this, called out for assistance, when their father and Daybell, who had also been witnesses of this outrage, ran immediately to the spot, having first called to their aid John Carnal, a neighbouring farmer, who went into his house and took down his gun, which had been previously loaded to shoot the birds among his corn. These three pursued the Irishmen, who were making off as fast as they could; and coming up with two of them, one of whom was the fellow who stuck the pig, Roberts demanded satisfaction for the injury, which, after some altercation, was agreed to be given, and a piece of dirty paper was tendered as a guinea note; but it appearing to be only a part of an old newspaper, Roberts refused to accept it. In the mean time two Irishmen who had gone away, returned with five or six more of their companions, armed with sticks, sickles, &c. Alarmed at their appearance, Roberts requested of Carnal to let him have his gun, which was complied with. Roberts, however, did not think proper at that time to use it, and he, with Daybell and Carnal, retreated precipitately, and were in

their turn closely pursued by the Irishmen, brandishing their sticks and sickles, and exclaiming, "We'll give you satisfaction for the pig!" Roberts, who was the hindmost, finding himself almost exhausted, and perceiving that his pursuers were nearly up with him, turned suddenly round, and discharged the gun at the man nearest him, who was only a few yards distant. The contents of the piece entered the stomach of the unfortunate person, and he expired on the spot. This put an end to the pursuit, and fortunately no further bloodshed ensued. Roberts, who was greatly affected at this dreadful catastrophe, made no attempt to elude justice, but readily yielded himself up to the constable sent to apprehend him, anxiously waiting the verdict of the coroner's jury. On opening the body of the deceased, whose name was Terence Feagan, aged 20 years, it was found that seven shot-drops had passed through the heart. The jury, after some deliberation, returned a verdict of "justifiable homicide," the witnesses Daybell and Carnal having sworn that they considered their own lives and that of Roberts to be in danger.

15. *Dumfries*.—On the evening of Monday, the 7th instant, Margaret Hamilton, the wife of W. M. servant to a farmer in Crawford-John, received a visit from her husband, who brought her a small quantity of oatmeal for her family, and returned to his master's house. Next morning the poor woman made porridge from the contents of the basin, and began to sup it with milk; but being struck with a peculiarity in the flavour, she called in her neighbour, Alice Watson, the

the wife of a miner at Wanlockhead, and prevailed on her to taste it. These two women were soon after both seized with such alarming pains, that Messrs. Meikle and Rankine, surgeons in Douglas, were called in to their aid. Margaret Hamilton died in great agony at the end of three hours, leaving behind her a helpless infant, born only three weeks ago; some of the porridge being given to a dog, the animal died instantly; and the meal being analyzed by the medical gentlemen, was found to contain a large portion of arsenic.

A warrant has been issued for the apprehension of the husband of the deceased.

The new comet, which was discovered at Marseilles, by M. Pons, and afterwards at Paris by M. Bouvard, according to the calculations of these astronomers, passed its perihelion on the 15th of September, when its distance from the sun, taking that of the earth at unity, was 0.77835. Its inclination to the ecliptic is $74^{\circ}20'$. In a very clear night, and in the absence of the moon, it is just visible to the naked eye.

16. A daring outrage was committed in the town of Adare. The sheriff of the county of Limerick having seized under execution, a quantity of cattle belonging to James Pursell, of Kildimo, a faction, consisting of about 300 in number, assembled with stones to rescue them; which the sheriff perceiving, succeeded in carrying off the cattle, when he was shortly pursued by John Pursell, Patrick Burns, and twelve others, mounted, and armed with pistols, swords, and blunderbusses, by one road, while the roads to Limerick and

Rathkeale were surrounded by others in hundreds. The horsemen took the road to Rathkeale, conceiving the cattle had been taken there; nor did they discover their error until they had gone a considerable distance; but the sheriff, conceiving he would be pursued, took a different road, and reached the town of Adare, when, in a few minutes after his arrival there, the factious mob on horseback entered the town, where a detachment of the Monaghan regiment are stationed. On their entering the town, Lieut. Hanna, commanding the military, instantly seized Burns, who was armed with a pistol, which he made two efforts to discharge at Lieut. Hanna, but without effect; but Lieut. Hanna succeeded in securing the fellow; when immediately John Pursell went up to the sheriff, and demanded the cattle, which he refused to give, and Pursell, alighting from his horse, took a pistol from under his coat, and was in the act of cocking it, when it was perceived by the serjeant, who immediately wrested it from him. The rest then fled. Pursell and Burns were immediately taken to the county gaol.

18. A shocking occurrence took place at Radstock. Corporal Green, who had been for some time in Bath, with a recruiting party of marines, went over to the above place, with the alleged purpose of apprehending a deserter; but called on a respectable young woman of the name of Smith, to renew his addresses, which had formerly been rejected by her parents. They walked out together in the neighbouring lane, when the villain, in a fit of desperation, took out a double-

double-barrelled pistol, the contents of one of which he discharged at the unfortunate young woman; and with the other shot himself through the head. He died on the spot; but his intended victim survives, and hopes are entertained of her ultimate recovery. A woman in passing through the lane, heard the man exclaim, "In that case, we will both die together." She had not proceeded above a hundred yards, when the reports of the pistol induced her to return, and she was the first witness of this dreadful scene.

19. *Leeds*.—On Sunday last, a daring robbery was committed at Sowerby, by a number of armed men, attended with circumstances of the most wanton atrocity. Mr. William Barker, who is overseer of the poor, and collector of the property tax, at Sowerby, had retired with his family to rest, when they were roused from their beds by a loud call for admittance; having opened the door, a number of men rushed in, and demanded his money, which he gave up to them, to the amount of 14*l.*; they then broke into his drawers, which they completely ransacked; but being disappointed in the booty they expected, they proceeded to break his household furniture and his clock; a set of china, and other articles, were completely destroyed; some of the wearing apparel of himself and his wife were thrown into the fire, and it was with great difficulty they were prevailed upon to desist from setting fire to the drawers. The number of persons concerned in this flagitious outrage could not be exactly ascertained; only five entered the house, but it is supposed there must have been

one or two placed on the outside to prevent surprise.

The following particulars of the murder of Mr. Sergerson, one of the magistrates of the county of Kerry, Ireland, appeared on the coroner's inquest held at Killorglin, in that county, on Friday the 19th:—John Moriarty, a constable, proved that he was called on by Mr. Sergerson, a magistrate of this county, to execute a warrant against Daniel and John Pennington, of Farratoreen, from the sheriff, in which he was appointed as a bailiff; that with four others (constables) he proceeded to Daniel Pennington's house, on Wednesday last, some taking post in front and others in rear of the house; that they remained there until Thursday, when, about three o'clock Mr. Sergerson was informed that victuals were conveyed through the house of John Pennington which adjoined: on which he (Mr. S.) went in and found that a small hole had been made through the gable-wall for that purpose. When he got in, a blow with a shovel was made at him, by the wife of John; but on his informing her that he intended her no harm, and that he would not injure her, the shovel was laid by, and she took off the fire a pot of potatoes, which were boiled, and which she strained, the boiling water of which (strained into a keeler) was taken up by John Pennington, and thrown down on Mr. Sergerson's uncovered head, by which he was severely scalded; he immediately ran out crying murder, and got into a cabin near Pennington's house, in which he dried and shaved himself, and began to write an information against John Pennington for an assault, when

when one of the police-men came in and informed him that fire-arms were conveying into Daniel Pennington's house, on which he got out, and went in front of the house; and immediately on getting there, the muzzle of a gun was put through a hole at the side of the door and fired off. Mr. Sergerson fell, after which the police-men fled. Cornelius Hays, another of the police-men, corroborated the statement of Moriarty, and heard Daniel Pennington say to the deceased, "Damnation may seize him (alluding to his brother John) for not killing him at once," and saw both the Penningtons make off, Daniel having a gun in his hand.

Surgeon Busted viewed the body, and saw eight wounds, apparently inflicted by slugs or small balls, two of which entered his brain, and one lodged in the bones of his ear, which wounds, he had no doubt, occasioned his death. The jury found that the deceased, John Sergerson, esq. was feloniously and wilfully murdered by Daniel Pennington and John Pennington, both of Faratoreen, and that the said Daniel and John Pennington fled after the commission of the said murder.

20. The list of the navy recently published, enumerates the following number of officers, viz.—

Admiral of the Fleet	- - -	1
Admirals of the Red	- - -	22
White	- - -	21
Blue	- - -	21
Vice-Admirals of the Red	- - -	23
White	- - -	23
Blue	- - -	23

Rear-Admirals of the Red	- - -	22
White	- - -	23
Blue	- - -	23
Superannuated Rear-Admirals	- - -	31
Superannuated and retired		
Captains	- - - - -	31
Post-Captains	- - - - -	797
Commanders	- - - - -	595
Retired Commanders	- - - - -	50
Lieutenants	- - - - -	3327

of which 223 are noted as unfit for sea service.

The following most tragical occurrence took place at Chepstow. A party, consisting of eight ladies and one gentleman,* accompanied by a man servant, who had been to church in the morning, had afterwards ridden to Tintern Abbey, and then returned by water; it was perfectly calm, and a full moon: when they were about to land, the boatman informed them that the best place was below the bridge, which they were fast approaching, and where a number of ladies and gentlemen were walking. Before they had entered the arch, one of the ladies Mrs. Rothery, as we understand from the survivors) called out, "there's a rope, there's a rope;" but it was not seen by any other of the party, being in part under the surface of the water. In an instant all was horror!—the moment the boat touched the rope, it upset! The cries of the unfortunate for assistance, the pushing off of boats from the shore, and the hurry of the good people who were anxious to save them, formed altogether a scene of inexpressible distress. The wretched remains of this late happy party

* Mrs. Shute, wife of Rd. Shute, esq. of Sydenham, Kent, and sister to Mrs. Langley, of Waterhouse, near Bath; her daughters Mary, Margaret, Eliza, and Ann; Miss Fisher, also sister to Mrs. Langley; Mr. Mrs. and Miss Rothery of Bath.

party are Miss Eliza Shute, Miss Ann, and Mr. Rothery, the latter of whom had been twice carried down in supporting his wife, by struggling friends clinging to him, and checking his exertions; he at length got her to the head of the upset boat, but from one of the party again clinging to them, they both suddenly disappeared, and it was long before Mr. Rothery rose to the surface, when he again grasped the boat, and was taken up in an almost lifeless state. Miss Ann Shute, after long struggling, reached the boat, and was taken off its bottom; and Miss Eliza was taken from underneath, upon turning up the boat. The unpardonable conduct of the person who fastened the fatal rope to the pier, contrary to all rule, and the regulation of the port, never before known to be done, and by which three families have been plunged into the greatest misery, renders it proper that his name should be made public; the coroner's inquest (held on Mary Shute, whose body is the only one yet found), states him to be J. Halford, of Bristol, the pilot who carried the vessel, to which the boat was attached, up the river.

M. Zambeccari, accompanied by a friend, ascended in a balloon, from Bologna, on the 21st September. On his descent, the balloon became entangled in the branches of a high tree, and, before it could be disengaged, caught fire. The two aéronauts leaped out. M. Zambeccari was killed upon the spot; but M. Bologna, his friend, survived, though some of his limbs were broken.

The ascension of the mechani-

cian, Bittorf, from Manheim, was equally disastrous. When he had risen to a considerable height, he perceived, too late, that his balloon was damaged, and had no other resource than to open the valve. The balloon descended with extreme velocity; the inflammable matter which it contained took fire; the shreds of the balloon fell upon Mr. Bittorf's head and breast, which were much burnt. On a sudden, his crazy vehicle struck upon the roof of a house, two stories high, from which he was precipitated, and died the next day in great agony.

22. *Carlton-House*.—This day the baron de Rehausen, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from the king of Sweden, had his first private audience of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, to deliver his credentials.

James Hall, farmer, and Samuel Blow, miller, both of the parish of Holton Beckering, Lincolnshire, were, on the information of the rev. John Hale, the rector, charged before Richard Elmhirst, esq. one of his majesty's justices of the peace for that county, with scandalously profaning the preceding Sabbath,—Hall having allowed two of his labourers to devote the whole of that day to reaping corn, and Blow having suffered his mill to be at work, not only the greater part of the day, but during divine service. They were both convicted in the full penalties agreeably to the statute. The money was laid out in bread, to be distributed amongst the poor people of the village.

In inserting this article, we add the remark, that it was in the midst

midst of a precarious harvest, and at a time when the stock of corn on hand was nearly exhausted.

23. Messrs. Wilkinsons, upholsters, on Ludgate-hill, having of late been frequently robbed of feathers, suspicion at last attached to a porter in their employ, and a plan was laid for his detection; it succeeded, and he was detected on Wednesday evening, when leaving work, with a large parcel of feathers in his possession: he was detained, and a constable sent for, and on being questioned, he confessed he had taken feathers frequently before, and sold them to a broker, residing on the Surrey side of Blackfriars bridge. In order to detect the receiver, it was agreed that he should go as usual, accompanied by the officer, with the feathers. When they arrived at the center of Blackfriars bridge, he said the broker was in the habit of meeting him in the recess, and taking his bundle; it was therefore agreed, that he should stop there on the present occasion, and that the officer should wait near at hand to detect the broker when he came. They had not been long in waiting, when the officer was surprised by observing the bundle of feathers fly over the top of the bridge; and running forward to inquire the cause, he was just in time to see, but not to prevent, the prisoner throwing himself over also. The body sunk immediately, and though instant search was made for it, has not yet been found.

26. *From the Spanish papers.*—The countess of Chinchon has given an illustrious testimony of her patriotic enthusiasm, by appropriating to general the duke of Ciudad Rodrigo, the rich and

magnificent insignia of the order of the Golden Fleece which belonged to her late father, the infant Don Luis, as a proof of that portion of the national gratitude which she feels for the exploits by which that distinguished captain has contributed to secure the ultimate triumph of Spanish independence. To this demonstration of her disinterested patriotism, she has added another of her respect for the supreme government, by requesting their approbation of this expression of the feelings of her heart, as will appear from the following letter addressed to the regency of the kingdom, and the annexed reply:—

Letter of the Countess of Chinchon to the Regency of the Kingdom.—

“Senor,—It not appearing to me proper to take any step without the consent of our beloved king, or of the legitimate government which represents him in his absence, and understanding that lord Wellington, duke of Ciudad Rodrigo, has been decorated with the order of the Golden Fleece, I have to beg that your highness will give your assent to his being presented with the insignia of that order which belonged to my deceased father, the infant Don Luis, the principal reason why I deem them valuable;—and, also, because I regard them as worthy of a successor to whom the country owes so great a share of its liberty.—

I am, &c.

“MARIA TERESA DE BORBON
“*Cadiz, Aug. 13, 1812.*”

Answer.—“The regency of the kingdom has seen your ladyship’s letter of this day, in which you solicit its consent to present to the duke of Ciudad Rodrigo, whom his highness has decorated with the order

order of the Golden Fleece, the insignia of that order which belonged to your ladyship's deceased father, the infant don Luis.

"The incalculable benefits which the Spanish nation has derived from the activity and military talents of that valiant captain, entitle him to the gratitude of every Spaniard; and, therefore, your ladyship's wish to transmit to him the insignia, which you cherish as valuable; because they belonged to your deceased father, has the approbation of his highness,—deserves his acknowledgments,—and is a new proof of your ladyship's enlightened patriotism.

"By order of the regency of the kingdom, I communicate this for your ladyship's information and guidance. May God preserve your ladyship many years!

"ANTONIO CANO MANUEL.

"*Cadiz, Aug. 13th, 1812.*"

28. A robbery was last week committed in Dublin, attended with very singular circumstances. About midnight, a prostitute was accosted by a person somewhat intoxicated, who took her to a house of ill-fame, where she contrived to pick his pocket of a small envelope, containing 10 notes of 100*l.* each. One of these she intrusted the next day to a Mr. Casey, a mealman, to procure change, and two more to a Mr. Lynch, with whom she had formerly lived. The latter, however, disclosed the transaction to the banking-house, whose name appeared to the notes; and it was agreed to detain the woman when she came, and take measures to recover the remainder of the notes. But in the mean time Casey and one M^cLin, a next-door neighbour, contrived, by threatening the woman, to get possession of

the entire sum, and then turned her out of doors, telling her to get away as fast as she could, for her life would be in danger if she were taken. For a few hours she was inclined to comply with their suggestions, but afterwards gave herself up, and disclosed all the facts. Casey and M^cLin are both in custody; but the most extraordinary circumstance in the whole case is, that no person has yet come forward to claim the property.

29. This morning, about one o'clock, as the mail-coach from Derry was on its way to Dublin, it was stopped, near Drogheda, by about ten persons, well armed, who had previously fastened a rope across the road to impede its progress. One of the gang fired at the guards, without doing them any injury. The shot was returned, and the robber fell. Several other shots were fired, which wounded the coachman and a guard severely; notwithstanding which, the other guard kept up the firing with great spirit. The robbers, however, succeeded in forcing open the coach, and made the inside passengers, who were six in number, come out one by one, and searched them. From one gentleman they took two hundred pounds, and about one hundred pounds more from the others. Some of the passengers got into the fields, and escaped towards Drogheda, and the gang dispersed. The coach returned to Drogheda, with the wounded guard and coachman, and did not pursue its journey to Dublin until ten o'clock the next morning. During the conflict about ten shots were fired; four of which were fired by the guards. The mail-bags of 21 towns

towns fell into the hands of the robbers; those of six, however, escaped their search, and those of two others were found unopened on the road, and brought to the post-office in the morning. A person has been apprehended on suspicion, and remains in custody. The coachman and guard, it is feared, cannot survive. The body of the robber who was killed has not been owned.

29. Parliament was dissolved by a proclamation from the Prince Regent.

30. The following tragical event lately happened at Cherbourg. A young man having in vain solicited his mother's consent to his marrying her maid-servant, went up to his bed-chamber, threatening that he would destroy himself. An instant after, a pistol was discharged. The mother finding the door bolted, ran out to alarm the neighbours, and then fainted away. The neighbours, on breaking open the door, were received by the young man with peals of laughter! The mother died of the fright she had received in 48 hours. The young man was committed to gaol.

30. The ceremony of depositing in Whitehall chapel the eagles and colours heroically wrested from the French in Spain, took place this morning.

Soon after nine o'clock, the 1st regiment of guards, who were to do the duty of the day, formed on the parade facing the Horse-guards, with their right resting on the wall of the Treasury. On their left the 2nd regiment formed, with side-arms only, their left terminating near the great gun. The 3rd regiment, also, with side-arms only, formed with the Admiralty garden

in their rear. On their left were stationed, with fixed bayonets, thirty rank and file of grenadiers of the 1st regiment, thirty of the 2nd, and thirty of the 3rd regiment, and nine serjeants, who were to carry the eagles and colours. The line was continued to the Horse-guards, and consisted of the horse and foot artillery stationed in the metropolis, with the several recruiting parties belonging to the cavalry and infantry. In the rear of the first line, facing the Horse-guards, were formed the two regiments of life-guards, with their full bands, their left extending to the wall of Carlton-house. About half-past nine general sir Harry Burrard arrived, and assumed the command, when the bands belonging to the three regiments in their full dress, took their stations, each in the center of its regiment.

Soon after ten o'clock the duchess of York arrived; her majesty and the princesses, in two carriages, soon followed, and were received by the troops with presented arms, the different bands playing "God save the King." They then took their station in the levee-room of the Horse-guards, which commands a view of the parade.

The Prince Regent, on a white charger, came from Carlton-house, at half-past ten, accompanied by the duke of York on foot, the duke of Kent, colonels Bloomfield, Congreve, and Torrens, and several other officers on horseback. His Royal Highness, on reaching the parade, was received with the usual honours, and took his station in front. The Prince Regent then proceeded to the right of the line, accompanied by his royal

royal brothers, their aides-de-camp, &c. and passed down the whole, the duke of York on foot at his right hand, and again resumed his station. The usual ceremony of the parade commenced, the bands belonging to the second and third regiments proceeding to troop the colours. This being gone through, the sub-divisions of grenadiers stationed on the left of the line were ordered to wheel on the right, and, preceded by the band of the 1st regiment, marched round the square, and halted facing the Tilt-yard. At this instant the bands of the horse and foot regiments began playing, and the eagles, five in number, were brought out and given to the serjeants, who marched in the rear of the first sub-division. Three standards, and one regimental colour, were next brought, and given to the remaining serjeants, who marched in the rear of the second sub-division. The band of the first regiment began the "Grenadier's March," and they proceeded round the square. On reaching the station of the Prince Regent and the royal family, the eagles and colours were lowered amid the acclamations of thousands of spectators. The three sub-divisions then halted, and advanced their arms, and in ordinary time paraded round. On reaching the colours of the first regiment, the whole of the trophies were lowered to the ground. They again passed the royal family, the eagles and colours being dropped, and marched through the Horse-guards to Whitehall Chapel. The remainder of the infantry were ordered to wheel on their left backwards, and, in open order, passed the Prince Regent to the chapel, with the exception of the

guard for the day. The life-guards followed in the same manner, and occupied their original ground. The Prince Regent, dukes of York and Kent, &c. proceeded to Whitehall to hear divine service.

The concourse of people assembled on the occasion was immense, and the spectacle altogether was of the most gratifying description. It was impossible to view, without feelings of exultation, those trophies which bore witness to the prowess of British soldiers, and which were won from no despicable enemy, but from troops whose military reputation stands so high in Europe. The eagles were five in number; two of them, taken at the battle of Salamanca, were very much mutilated; two others, taken at Madrid, were in a more perfect state; and the fifth, we understand, was found in the channel of a stream near Ciudad Rodrigo, into which it was thrown when the rear of Massena's army was closely pressed by the British cavalry, on its retreat from Portugal. Four of the eagles are numbered 13, 22, 39, 51.

There were also four standards; but they were in such a tattered state, that there was not a device or letter legible. The garrison flag of Badajoz was like a sieve, and great part of it quite red with human blood.

At half-past eleven the procession moved to the chapel, amid the acclamations of many thousand spectators; the Prince Regent continued in front near half an hour, and the troops passed in review order. The life-guards gave some fine specimens of the rapidity of their evolutions.

At

At half-past two the queen, princesses, princess Charlotte of Wales, the Prince Regent, and dukes of York and Kent, came again on the parade. All the cabinet ministers in town were present.

OCTOBER.

Mr. Sadler ascended from Belvidere-house, near Dublin, Oct. 1st, at 1 p. m. with the wind at south-west, and in 35 minutes had sight of the mountains in Wales; he continued in the same direction till three o'clock; when being nearly over the Isle of Man, the wind blowing fresh, he found himself fast approaching the Welch coast; and at four o'clock, he had a distinct view of the Skerry light-house, and the prospect of consummating his ardent hopes of a speedy arrival in Liverpool. The wind now shifting, he was again taken off and lost sight of land; when, after hovering about for a long time, he discovered five vessels beating down channel; and in hopes of their assistance, he determined on descending with all possible expedition, and precipitated himself into the sea. In this most critical situation, he had the mortification to find the vessels took no notice of him; obliged, therefore, to reascend, he now threw out a quantity of ballast, and quickly regained his situation in the air, to look out for more friendly aid. It was a length of time before he had the satisfaction of discovering any; and then observed a vessel which gave him to understand by signal, that she intended to assist him, but could not reach him. Two others also now appeared in sight, and one

of them tacking about, hoisted the Manx colours. Night now coming on, he was determined to avail himself of their friendly aid, and once more descended into the sea; but here the wind acting upon the balloon as it lay on the water, drew the car with so much velocity, that the vessel could not overtake it; and notwithstanding he used his utmost efforts, and latterly tied his clothes to the grappling iron, and sunk them to keep him steady, still the balloon was carried away so fast, that he was under the necessity of expelling the gas; upon that escaping, the car actually sunk, and he had now nothing but the netting to cling to. His perilous situation, and the fear of getting entangled, deterred the men from coming near him; until, being in danger of drowning. Mr. Sadler begged they would run their bowsprit through the balloon, and expel the remaining gas. Having done this, they threw out a line, which he would round his arm, and was then dragged a considerable way before they could get him on board, quite exhausted.

The ship was a herring-fisher, from Douglas, in the Isle of Man, called the *Victory*, commanded by John Lee.

Fire at Dalkeith.—On the 30th, about four in the afternoon, a fire broke out in a large tenement, occupied by Peter Moffat, inn-keeper. The houses being covered with thatch, and, by an unfortunate coincidence, a strong westerly gale, approaching even to a hurricane, blowing at the time, in less than 15 minutes the fire communicated itself to an extensive range of houses occupied by Mr. Robert Charles, stabler, and others, and in an instant

stant the whole were wrapt in one sheet of inextinguishable flame. The utmost consternation ensued ; and for more than an hour, it was feared that the fire would fix on an adjoining square of considerable magnitude, consisting of some of the best buildings in the town. This, however, was happily prevented. A fire so tremendous, and causing such extensive devastation, has not happened within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. No less than seven families have had nearly their whole property consumed.

3. The Galway mail-coach, which left Dublin last night, was stopped by a numerous band of robbers, near Kilcock, and completely plundered. The robbers, before they stopped the coach, fired a volley, by which the guard and one of the passengers were killed. They then plundered the coach, which carried, it is said, property to a considerable amount for the fair at Ballinasloe. The mail-coach coming from Galway fortunately stopped for several hours at Kilbeggan, on having heard the atrocious circumstance, and thus avoided a similar fate.—*Dublin Evening Post*.

5. The lock which connects the Gloucester and Berkely Canal with the Severn, having recently been cleaned out, was opened for the passage of vessels, and accordingly a barge, laden with coal, was admitted into the basin. Some young men having procured three swivel guns, to celebrate the event, and wishing to cause a louder report than usual, inconsiderately rammed down the charge of one of them very forcibly with wet wadding ; on applying the match it unfortunately

burst, and wounded three of the bystanders so severely, that one of them, Mr. S. Dowdeswell, a reputable farmer, of Standish, died on the spot, leaving a young widow and three infant children to lament his untimely end ; another (the youth who fired the fatal piece) lived only till the following night ; but the third, though most dangerously hurt, still survives ; and there are some hopes that he may ultimately recover.—*Gloucester Journal*.

5. This morning a fire broke out in the back premises of Messrs Bowden and Tucker, extensive drug-brokers, in Camomile-street, Bishopsgate-street. The flames raged with great fury, and extended their ravages along the back of the Bishopsgate-street houses, as far as to Houndsditch, where several houses have suffered. Two maid-servants are missing, belonging to a family which chanced to be out of town. No estimate can yet be formed of the extent of the loss.

On Tuesday, the 6th instant, a coal pit, at Shiney-row, county of Durham, suddenly took fire by explosion of the inflammable air ; in consequence of which one man and six boys were severely scorched, but who are all, however, in a fair way of recovery. On the Saturday following (Oct. 10) about half-past one p. m. the Harrington-mill pit, distant from the above-mentioned pit about 2 or 300 yards, also took fire, most suddenly, by which 4 men and 19 boys were killed upon the spot, and many people severely wounded and burnt ; two boys are still missing. This dreadful catastrophe was likewise occasioned by the explosion of fire damp.

7. A fatal-duel took place on South Sea common, near Portsmouth: the parties were lieutenant Stewart and lieutenant Bagnall, of the royal marines, and most intimate friends: the quarrel arose concerning a female with whom both were intimate. In the first case of pistols, lieutenant Stewart's missed fire; in the second discharge his ball entered behind lieutenant Bagnall's right shoulder-blade, and came out at the top of the other shoulder: every attention was instantly procured, but he expired on Saturday evening.

The Centinel gun brig, with part of the homeward-bound Baltic convoy, was, on the 11th of October, wrecked off the north-east point of the island of Rugen. A letter from Yarmouth estimates the loss at 20 merchant-men; but the French papers, received on Saturday, reduce it to sixteen. The division of the convoy which got on shore, according to the French journals, amounted to 22 sail; a frigate and five vessels were floated before the morning of the 12th; the crews of eight merchant-men, despairing of extricating their vessels, set them on fire, and were taken on board the ships that escaped the danger. Eight other merchant-men, which were within range of guns from the coast, fell into the hands of the enemy. Under all the circumstances, we are happy to find both the English and French accounts concur in stating, that the crews of the different vessels were all saved.

On the 11th instant, Robert Armstrong, a joiner, at Martin, in Cleveland, thought proper, unsolicited, to ask a companion to let him down by the bucket, into

a well, which is about sixty feet deep, but only two in water, to bring up two wooden dishes which had been in the well for near five months. He had not been lowered more than thirty feet, before he fell out of the bucket into the well; his companion continued to lower the bucket to the water, and called to him, but obtained no answer. An alarm was given, when James Ingledew, a blacksmith, was lowered down in the bucket without being tied to a rope, which he refused to have done, in order to save Armstrong, if possible. He was scarcely lowered twenty feet before he fell in like manner. A ladder was then procured, and Joseph Tenison, a labourer, was immediately, at his own request, lowered by the ladder into the well, to endeavour to save the other two; when he had been lowered a few yards, he was observed to fall on the side of the ladder, senseless. It now occurred to the by-standers, that the cause of these disasters arose from foul air in the well; when a fourth man, William Hardwick, a labourer, went down on the ladder from which Joseph Tenison had fallen senseless into the well, with a rope tied round him, Hardwick had not gone down more than twelve feet before he became senseless, and fell, when he was immediately hauled up, and on his arrival at the top of the well was black in the face, and apparently dead, but soon after recovered. Every effort was now used by a number of men with grappling-irons, but without effect, to bring up the three bodies. A well-sinker was then sent for, who endeavoured to take out the foul air with which the well was filled

filled, but in vain. An improvement was then suggested and made in the grappling irons, when, after much difficulty, the three bodies were brought up to the top lifeless.

11. About twelve o'clock, a very serious alarm took place on board the Ganges prison-ship at Plymouth, wherein 750 French prisoners were confined. One of them had actually set fire to the ship and burned a great hole in her before it was discovered. The incendiary was soon detected and put in irons; he confessed his guilt, and declared it was his intention to destroy himself and companions, who were tired of confinement: he was immediately taken on board the San Ysidro. The prisoners all assisted in putting out the fire, and it was with difficulty they were restrained from tearing the offender in pieces. Upwards of 2,000 French prisoners have been sent from the ships within these four days.

12. On this and the two following days, a series of storm and tempest occurred at Jamaica, by which great damage was done to buildings and plantations, attended with some loss of lives. Many vessels were also driven on shore, or forced from their anchorage.

13. Two of the French prisoners at Perth were released from their confinement, to be restored to their country and friends. One of them, a lieutenant, was exchanged for a British officer of equal rank; the other, a humane soldier, has obtained not only liberty, but the good will and respect of every Briton who knows his story. General Walker, while storming Badajoz, at the head of

his brigade, was found by this young Frenchman, lying wounded and bleeding in the breach. He took our wounded general in his arms, and carried him into a French hospital, where he was taken care of by the medical department. The general gave his address, with a promise to serve his deliverer if ever in his power. The Frenchman, at last a captive, accordingly applied to general Walker, who lost no time in procuring for him the reward of liberty.

14. This morning, about half-past three o'clock, a fire broke out in the lower part of the premises of Mr. Merle, picture-frame maker, No. 36, Leadenhall-street. Such was the rapidity of the flames, that it was with difficulty the family made their escape over the adjoining houses. The wind being from the west, the fire burnt in an easterly direction, and consumed every thing before it to the corner of Billeter-lane. It then destroyed entirely the very extensive premises of Messrs. Holroyd and Jackson, slop-sellers; also the premises of Mr. Seabrook, tailor, No. 37, Leadenhall-street.

On Saturday morning, the 17th inst. a farmer's wife, near Kingsbridge, Devon, was found murdered in the kitchen, on the return of her husband from labour. The clothes of the murderer were found in the kitchen, he having put on those of the master of the house. A close pursuit was instantly commenced by Mr. Lane, and others, from Kingsbridge; and, as it was judged probable that the villain had taken a route westward, they proceeded to Plymouth. The constables of Plymouth, and of Ply-
mouth

mouth Dock were soon on the alert, and vigilantly examined the whole of the public houses, &c. on Sunday, without effect.

On Monday morning, however, although it blew a most tremendous gale, Mr. Lane crossed the new passage, near Plymouth Dock, and seized the murderer in the passage house, on the opposite side, at Torpoint, preparing to go into Cornwall. He had then on the clothes of the husband of the deceased, instantly confessed the fact, and was recognized as a well-known pedestrian who had been in the habit of supplying the counties of Devon and Cornwall with ballads, &c. He said that he approached the house in which the deceased lived, and having ascertained the absence of the owner, he entered the kitchen, found the woman busily employed about dinner, knocked her down with a broom-stick, took up a bill-hook which he stuck into her neck, and finished the business by cutting her throat with a pruning knife. That he then took 4*l.* out of her pocket, and opening a drawer, took out the clothes of her husband and put them on, leaving his own on the ground.

Being strongly suspected of the horrible murder of Margaret Huxtable, of Dedbrook, he declined answering the questions put to him; said, that he knew he should be hung, and that if he had any confessions to make, he had time on the road, and should have some conversation with the officers. Before he quitted Plymouth Dock, he was recognized by an officer, as having been sentenced to two years imprisonment at Exeter, in

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the year 1809, for attempting to violate and murder a child.

This wretch has since confessed the murder of Huxtable.

19. A horrid murder was committed at Longford, a small village near Market Drayton, Shropshire, (about ten miles distant from the place where Mrs. Moray and her servant murdered Mrs. Moray's husband), on the bodies of Mr. Francis Bruce, a farmer, and his housekeeper, who were both found on Tuesday morning in their kitchen with their throats cut, and the house robbed. On Wednesday the coroner's jury sat, but no discovery had then been made of the wretches who had perpetrated the deed; but it was supposed to have been done before eight o'clock in the evening, as they generally retired early to bed. The blood had, however, been traced on a stile and gate at Morton, a distance of about a mile, which it is hoped will lead to some discovery.

A court martial was held on William Gaiter, landman, on board his Majesty's ship *Coquette*, in Portsmouth harbour, for maiming himself, by chopping off his left hand, at the wrist joint, on the evening of the 1st of September. The court agreed that the charge had been proved; and holding in great abhorrence the commission of so atrocious and unmanly an act, by which his country is deprived of his effective services, did adjudge him to be employed in the most menial situation on board such ship of his Majesty as the commander in chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels at Spithead, and in Portsmouth harbour, or the lords commissioners

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of the admiralty, shall from time to time direct, and to be rendered unworthy for ever hereafter of being employed in any situation superior to landman in the royal navy.

21. This afternoon, about three o'clock, the inhabitants of Palace-yard, Westminster, were thrown into great confusion, in consequence of the water from the Thames overflowing their houses, occasioned by the extreme high tide. The tide also burst forth into Westminster-hall, and filled the place. Three boats were soon afterwards brought in, to convey the passengers out at a shilling per fare. At Millbank, Chelsea, and several other places up the river, great damage was sustained by the water washing away the fences of several shrubberies; and at one time the tide was so high as to cover the top of the first arch of Westminster-bridge. The warehouses below London-bridge were also completely inundated.

22. The state of the weather of late in Shetland has been, and still continues, most alarming; not a dry day, scarce a dry hour; only here and there a very little ripe corn to cut, and no weather that will admit of its being reaped, even to save the cattle. There have been five weeks of incessant shaking winds and rotting rains, and in the whole time there have been only three dry days; on the whole, many bad years have been seen there, but never one like this.—(*Edin. Paper.*)

26. *Edinburgh.*—From the year 1750, the North Esk, in Kincardineshire, emptied itself into the sea upon the lands of Kirkside and

Woodstone. About a twelve-month ago, however, in consequence of an overflow in the river, and a very high tide, it excavated a new channal on the lands of Comieston, upon which, on an average, one half of its contents continued to run during last fishing season. A new revolution has now taken place in the course of the river, which, on Monday last, completely opened out its old channel upon the lands of Kirkside and Woodstone, by which a valuable property is restored to its former proprietors. This river had, several times previous to the first-mentioned date, undergone a similar change from the same causes; and upon one of these occasions, it gave rise to a long and expensive litigation, between the new and old proprietors, which was at last decided in favour of the gentleman on whose grounds the river had begun to flow; all artificial means employed to obstruct or change the course of a river being declared illegal.

27. During the high wind on this night, a lamplighter, named Burke, while lighting the lamps on the east side of Blackfriars-bridge, was, by a sudden gust, blown into the river, in presence of his son, a child of ten years old, and before assistance could be procured, sunk to rise no more. Part of the roof of a villa at Putney, inhabited by madame Chery, was unroofed by the wind. Several persons were enveloped in the ruins, but no lives were lost. In town several buildings sustained material damage; the neighbourhood of Downing-street was greatly alarmed, from its influence on the

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the uninhabited remains of a house there, the bricks and tiles of which were forced into the street, to the terror of the passengers.

28. The latter end of the month of August last, at an early hour in the morning, a bird was observed on a tree at a gentleman's house at Byrte; a clown who lived about the house, as servant, mistook it for a hawk and shot it, when it proved to be a beautiful green parrot, and had round its neck a gold ring, on which was engraved, "Captain Packenham of his Majesty's ship Saldanha." A person in an adjoining field was listening to the bird when it was shot, and thought it was attempting to speak either the Spanish or French language. What seems extraordinary is, that the bird had not been seen in any part of the country before that morning, though the vessel from which it must have escaped was lost on the 4th of December last, off Lough Swilly. The place where it was killed was about twenty miles from the wreck. Poor poll and a dog were the only survivors from that ill-fated ship and her gallant crew.—(*Belfast News-letter.*)

One of the most extensive robberies of the mail that have occurred since the establishment of mail-coaches, happened on the 26th. When the fact of the robbery reached the Exchange yesterday, it got into general circulation, and produced a considerable degree of alarm throughout the city. The deposition of the guard was taken at the Mansion-house. The examination was private; of course the particulars have not been suffered to transpire; but we understand, that on Monday night, while

the Leeds mail-coach was proceeding, at a sharp pace, between Kettering and Higham-Ferrars, the coachman spoke to the guard; and not being able, or pretending not to hear what he said in answer, requested that he would lean forwards over the coach. The guard did so, and continued about five minutes in conversation with him; when, on resuming his seat, he found, to his astonishment, that the lock of the lid of the hind part of the coach, where the bags are deposited, had been forced. He instantly ordered the coach to be stopped, and communicated to the driver the extraordinary occurrence that had taken place, and his suspicions that more serious injury had been sustained. The coach having pulled up, the guard and the coachman proceeded to examine the repository of the mails, and missed no less than sixteen bags. The only bags which arrived were the Higham-Ferrars, Hitchin, and Bedford.

The Lord Mayor sent off police-officers in all directions, to apprise the bankers in London and Westminster of the robbery, and to stop such persons as should present bills and drafts of payment from the towns whose mails had not reached the post-office yesterday morning; printed circulars were also forwarded by post to every post town in the united kingdom for the same purpose. It has been since affirmed, that the guard travelled by the side of the coachman, on the box, between three and four miles, and that on returning to the dickey he discovered the robbery, a story more consistent with probability than the other.

Last week an old man aged 70,
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and a boy 12 years old, servants of Mr. Northey, of Haselbury farm, near Box, Gloucestershire, went to a field to fetch two bulls and a cow, to drive to a neighbouring fair; one of the bulls being of a very vicious disposition, and having been provoked on the preceding afternoon by some mischievous boys, immediately made at the lad, and gored him most dreadfully. On the old man running to his assistance, the bull instantly left the first object of his attack, and set furiously at the other, whom he also gored, and threw to an amazing height, and afterwards mangled his head so shockingly, that no trace of features remained, and the poor sufferer expired before any rescue could be afforded him. The enraged animal was then about to renew his attack upon the boy, but was prevented by the efforts of a third person who had come to his help, but who would most likely have suffered severely for his interposition, had he not escaped by ascending a wall; whence he defended the boy by throwing stones at the bull until the timely arrival of a fourth person, armed with a gun, who shot the desperate creature dead on the spot. Hopes are entertained of the boy's recovery.—(*Cheltenham Gazette.*)

29. It was reported, some time ago, that the captain of the ship *Adventure*, employed in the South Sea Whale Fishery, while in the act of striking a whale, was carried overboard by the tackling, and drowned, and that the ship was afterwards lost, off Cape Lopez, on her passage home. The agents of the ship in London, having heard that some men, who were known to be of the crew, had arrived at

Liverpool, sent down to have them examined relative to the loss of the *Adventure*, in order to settle with the underwriters. A few days after this, a young man, named Henry Mades, who was an apprentice in the *Adventure*, made his appearance in London, and gave the following information to Mrs. Keith, the captain's wife, residing in Wapping:—That the ship was returning home from the South Seas (she was then near the island of St. Thomas, a Portuguese settlement), when the crew, who were composed chiefly of Danes, mutinied, and murdered captain Keith, the mate and a cabin boy being all the English then on board, except the witness. They also murdered two blacks, who were natives of Cape Lopez. This appears to have been with a view to possess themselves of the ship, and to remove those who might afterwards appear against them in evidence. This communication to the captain's widow was forwarded by her yesterday to the magistrates at Shadwell, who immediately sent for the boy, Mades, in order to examine him more particularly upon these facts. He stated, that he, as likewise the captain, were in bed, when they heard a noise upon deck. The captain ran up to see what it was, and some time after the boy followed him. He then saw them in the act of throwing the captain overboard, whom, it appears, they had previously murdered by knocking his brains out. The first alarm was occasioned, as the witness supposed, by their murdering the mate and others, whom they had by this time likewise thrown overboard. The witness was next threatened to be murdered,

ed, as the other apprentice had previously been; but they only enjoined him never to divulge the circumstance, and swore him to that effect. On these conditions he was permitted to live. The ship was afterwards scuttled by the crew, and sunk, when they took to the boats, being eleven in number, eight in one boat, and three in another. They arrived at the island of St. Thomas, from whence they got on board of another ship, and came to Liverpool, where some of them are now in the hospital sick, it seems, with a fever and ague.

30. Government having ordered a light-house to be erected on Tuscar-rock, near Wexford, Mr. Needham, an architect, was sent thither in the course of the summer, with about twenty-five persons experienced in such works. For their accommodation they constructed on the rock three small wooden houses: these habitations were at high water forty feet above the level of the sea. On the morning of the 19th it blew a perfect hurricane, the waves broke over them, and the unhappy inhabitants were obliged to leave their huts, of which in two minutes not a vestige remained, and fasten themselves by ropes to large stones preparing for the building and weighing a ton or a ton and a half each; which ponderous stones were nevertheless dashed about by the waves like so many pebbles. Some of the persons who had fastened themselves to the stones were killed, and others forced from their holds into the ocean. The survivors, after continuing in this perilous situation during two tides, were at length discovered

(the weather having become more mild) by the boat employed to attend the rock. They had remained from Sunday noon till Wednesday morning without any sustenance. In the evening ten of the unfortunate men were conveyed to Wexford; three were brought to the hospital, one of whom had his leg broken, and the others were much hurt.

31. A foot-pad robbery took place about one o'clock in the day, attended with very extraordinary circumstances. Mr Robert Thorley, on his way from town to his residence to Petersham, sent his servant forward from Wandsworth with a message to his family, and instead of himself proceeding home through Richmond-park, as was his custom, he went by the private road, which turns off to Richmond a little beyond the seven-mile-stone on the Wandsworth road. When Mr. Thorley had passed the first gate a short way, he perceived a female attired like a quakeress, and a man following her at a short distance, on the side-path, which is parallel with the horse road. The man appeared to be a carpenter, or mechanic, with an apron folded round him. as soon as Mr. Thorley came opposite to him he sprang suddenly from the foot-path into the main road, which causing Mr. Thorley's horse to startle, he involuntarily struck him across the breast with a rattan stick; and supposing the man to be intoxicated, he inquired what he was about. The robber on this took out a pistol from his left side, which Mr. Thorley observed was loaded up to the muzzle, presented it, and said, "I must have your money." Mr. Thorley replied, "You can have

have but little"; and gave all the silver he had, consisting of a bank token or two, and a few shillings. The man observed, "If you will do me no injury, I shall not hurt you;" and then retired, saying, "real distress has compelled me to this act." This observation disarmed Mr. Thorley of all resentment against the unfortunate wretch, and he was only solicitous to render him service. He told him it was a shocking alternative he had chosen: and inquired if he did not know, that by the act he had just committed he had forfeited his life. The footpad walked on, and would hear no more. Mr. Thorley was still anxious to learn the man's situation, and continued stationary and looking after him: but the footpad mistaking his object, turned back and followed him hastily with a presented pistol. Mr. Thorley did not, however, lose sight of him, retiring to no greater distance than was necessary to avoid the danger of the shot. At this instant a person on horseback passed close to the robber, when Mr. Thorley called out—"a highwayman!" The footpad immediately shewed his pistol, and desired the gentleman to go on, who proved to be a Mr. Smith of the city. Mr. Thorley and Mr. Smith conferred together as to the best mode of apprehending the man, when Mr. Reeves, a magistrate, arrived on the spot. By this time the footpad had got over the hedge into an adjoining field; and a servant of Mr. Nettleship's having joined the party, means were immediately employed to take him. Mr. Smith rode to Wandsworth for a constable, whilst the other persons stationed themselves

in such directions as to prevent the possibility of an escape. At this moment a pistol was heard from the opposite side of the hedge to that on which Mr. Reeves was; and that gentleman conceived at first that he had been fired at by the robber; but on further investigation, it was found that the wretched footpad had laid violent hands upon himself, by discharging the contents of the pistol into his own head. He was found without one of his shoes, lying on his back, and quite dead. The body was taken to the George inn, at Wandsworth, where a coroner's inquest was held upon it on Monday last, before — Jemmet, esq. coroner for the county. Verdict — *Felo-de-se*.

The letters received yesterday from the out-ports, give most disastrous accounts of the losses at sea; but not more so than might be expected from the tremendous gale of wind on Tuesday night last, which, according to advices from various parts of the country, tore up a number of trees by the roots, and even levelled houses to the ground. The master of a Faversham vessel informs us, that in his passage from Leith to that port, which lasted six days, he encountered three heavy gales; one on Sunday, and another on Monday, but the most violent was that which he experienced on Tuesday night, whilst at anchor in Yarmouth-roads. So fatal were its effects, that this person, the following day, counted fifteen wrecks on the neighbouring coast.

The Austrian Prince of Latour Taxis expended last month 46,000*l.* in celebrating the marriage of his daughter. The ceremony was performed

formed in Vienna, and the festivities were kept up near three weeks. On certain days the guests took the diversion of hunting, for which purpose about fifty of the largest wolves that could be procured were purchased at an expense of 80*l.* each.

NOVEMBER.

1. The Russian circumnavigator, Krusenstern, in the relation of his voyage round the world (recently published in Russ and German), gives a faithful account of the failure of the principal object of his expedition; which was to establish commercial relations between Japan and Russia. "The Emperor of Japan (he says) caused it to be notified to the commissioners whom I carried, that his subjects traded only with the Dutch and Chinese. As to the Russians, he begged them to return to their own country, and, if they valued their lives, never to come back." The two vessels in which captain Krusenstern performed his voyage were called the *Neva* and *Nadessa* (Hope): they were English built, and all the equipments of his sailors were purchased in this country.

A letter from Madras states, that the following melancholy spectacle was lately witnessed there:—"A young Gentoo widow, about 21 years of age, came to the commanding officer, asking permission to burn herself with her deceased husband; he used every argument to dissuade her from it, but in vain; her family, and even her own mother, abused her for hesitating, by going to the commanding officer. They were

very poor, and did not provide sufficient wood and oil: horrid to relate, the poor creature was heard repeatedly to cry out, "more fire! more fire!" and shriek with agony, until the noise of the instruments drowned her cries.

On the 2nd a writ of inquiry was executed before the sheriff of the county of Hertford, in a cause in which the Earl of Essex was plaintiff, and Mr. Richard Taylor of Bull's Lands, near Rickmansworth, was defendant. The attorney for Lord Essex stated to the jury, that this action had been brought by his lordship to recover damages for a trespass committed by the defendant at Cashiobury, while hunting with the Berkeley hounds: that though his lordship had brought penal actions against different members of the hunt, in some of which he had consented to take nominal damages, and though he had, by every means in his power, notified that he would not permit any person who was following the hounds to trespass upon his lands, still that he was subject to frequent depredations, and that his lordship was determined to take such steps as would effectually prevent a repetition of these offences. Two witnesses were called, who proved that they saw the defendant ride over a field of clover which is in his lordship's occupation, after he had been warned not to do so. The defendant's attorney, in addressing the jury, admitted the trespass; but stated, that the defendant had inadvertently gone over his lordship's field; that he was, indeed, ignorant of the lands which his lordship occupied: and he trusted, that as no actual damage

mage had been proved to any extent, the jury would not give more than 1*s.* damages.—The attorney for his lordship, in his reply, observed, that every man, while he was hunting, proceeded at his peril; and that he was, by the law of the land, bound to know and respect the properties of others; and that it had really become a question, whether his lordship was to be allowed the undisturbed possession of his own lands, or quietly to submit that the Berkeley hunt should participate with him in the enjoyment of his estate; and he concluded by hoping, that the jury would give such damages as would operate as a warning to the persons composing this hunt, in future. After the evidence had been summed up by the sheriff, the jury gave a verdict for 10*l.* damages.

There was likewise another action brought by the same plaintiff, against Burgh Leighton, esq. under the same circumstances; and the jury also gave a verdict for 10*l.* in this cause.

3. The Lord Eldon East India-man has brought over to England a heifer, eighteen months old, of the Braminico or true Bengal breed, which was put on board at the Isle of France, by directions of the governor of that island, by order of Lord Minto, as a present to the Prince Regent. On Saturday evening it arrived at the stables of Carlton house. It has a hump on the shoulders like a camel: the horns are nearly upright. The same ship has brought over a bull nine months old of the same breed, as a present for colonel Heriot. A white cow, of the same breed, died on the passage.

5. In consequence of the depo-

sition of the boy relative to the murders on board the *Adventurer*, made some days ago, persons from the police office, Union-hall, were sent down to Liverpool, to search for Charles Frederick Palm, a Swede, who was second mate of the *Adventurer*, and Samuel Telling, the cooper; both of whom, according to Mades's deposition, were deeply implicated in the murder. By the activity of the officers they were both apprehended, and brought to town, and on Tuesday evening they underwent a long examination before Mr. Birnie, when Telling gave the following account of this atrocious transaction, which fully corroborates Mades's testimony:—

The *Adventurer*, of which the deceased Captain Keith was commander, and Mr. Smith chief mate, sailed from London in September, 1811. The deponent sailed in her as cooper; they had been out about six months, when the captain and chief mate were murdered. He could not recollect the day, but it was about four o'clock in the morning. The captain and chief mate were in bed: a boy named George was at the helm, and Palm and the rest of the crew were forward on deck. Palm was striking a light when the captain came on deck in his shirt, and said to him, "Charles, what are you about?" Palm made no answer, but immediately struck him with a cooper's hammer, which he had ready in his hand. The captain exclaimed "Oh, Charles, you have done me!" Mr. Smith had followed the captain upon deck, and was attacked at the same time by another Swede, since dead, who struck him several times on the head with the cook's axe. Both the mate and

and the captain being knocked down, two other Swedes, who are also since dead, assisted by Palm, hove the bodies overboard. The mate called out "boat, boat," after he was in the water, but they heard nothing more of the captain or him afterwards. After this, all hands went below deck, and Palm produced a Bible, upon which they took a solemn oath never to divulge what had passed; the boy who was left at the helm was afterwards sworn also. Some time previous to this, the captain had brought two black men on board, and after the bodies of the captain and mate were hove overboard, the two Swedes procured, each of them, a pistol and a glass of rum; the rum they gave to the blacks, and whilst the poor fellows were in the act of drinking, each of them received the contents of a pistol in his body. One of them was shot dead on the spot; the other was only wounded; but with the assistance of Palm, both were instantly thrown overboard. The wounded man swam after the ship; and caught hold of the rudder, upon which Palm took up a spade, and swore if he did not let the rudder go, he would cut his hands off; upon which the unfortunate wretch let go his hold, and was seen no more. After this they plundered the captain's property. Palm then took the conduct of the vessel; but after some consultation, it was determined to scuttle her, and take to the boats; two boats were accordingly prepared, and provisions put on board; the crew, consisting of eleven persons, then got into them, and they steered for the coast of Africa; they were three days and three nights before they made land, and then one of the boats was

swamped, and a boy was drowned in getting on shore. They walked along the beach till night, when they lay down on the sands to sleep, and the following morning proceeded further into the country; and perceiving some smoke to rise from the midst of a cluster of trees, at a distance, they made towards them, when the blacks rushed out upon them, overpowered and stript them, and then marched them some distance into the country, where they were kept for some weeks, when they were sent to Port Lopez, a Portuguese settlement, from whence Mades, Palm, and the deponent got to Liverpool.

Soon after the Adventurer left England, the crew were put on short allowance, and so continued; they were discontented at this generally, and said they might as well be killed at once as starved to death. On the morning in which the captain and mate were murdered, Palm, whilst he was striking a light, said he would kill the captain; the Swedes agreed to do so, and said any one who did not should share the same fate. The deponent assisted in throwing overboard the two blacks, but did not touch the captain or mate.

5. The attachment of the Newfoundland breed of dogs to the human race, in danger of drowning, was strikingly displayed last week in Hamoaze harbour. Eleven sailors, a woman, and a waterman had just reached the Fantôme sloop of war in a shore-boat, when, in consequence of one of the sailors stooping hastily over the side of the boat to reach his hat, which had fallen into the sea, it upset, and all in it were plunged into the water. A Newfoundland dog on the quarter-

quarter-deck of the *Fantome*, observing the accident, instantly leaped among the unfortunate persons, and seizing one man by the collar of his coat, bore his head above water, till a boat came, and saved all but the poor waterman. The noble animal, after delivering his charge in safety, made a wide circuit round the ship as in search of another sufferer, but finding nothing except an oar, he seized it, and was welcomed on board by the acclamations of the admiring crew.

As some labourers were lately digging gravel at Stoke Ash, Suffolk, they discovered, at about ten feet below the surface of the earth, some animal bones, of a magnitude considerably greater than any quadrupeds they had ever seen; on their taking them up, and exposing them to the rays of the sun, they crumbled away, except six portions of a firmer texture, which remain in nearly a perfect state; these prove to be two grinders and four of the cutting teeth of an elephant; they are quite in a mineralised state, and were found with their masticating surfaces in contact parallel with each other, as if the upper and lower jaw-bones had mouldered and fallen away from them; the grinders are very massy, one weighing 6 lb. the other $4\frac{1}{4}$ lb. These mineralised remains are now in the possession of two gentlemen of Eye; with one there is a lamina of a third grinder preserved.

10. About ten o'clock, one of the iron pipes for the conveyance of water, at the bottom of St. Martin's lane, burst with a tremendous explosion, like the discharge of a piece of ordnance. The water, in an immense body, rose consider-

ably higher than the tops of the adjoining houses. In less than a quarter of an hour the greater part of Charing-cross was completely inundated, to the great inconvenience of passengers.

11. Eight French officers lately broke their parole of honour, and escaped from Andover. The following particulars of their escape and detection have since transpired. They went off in the night, saddle horses being provided for them; six of them rode double horses, preceded by two other horses, on each of which was mounted an officer, accompanied by two English conductors, who were to receive 600*l.* to cover all expenses. They arrived on the coast near Christchurch, opposite the Needles, on the 2nd of October, where there was a smuggler's vessel from Weymouth, in waiting for them; but the wind was so completely contrary, and blew such a hurricane at the time, that it was deemed improper to go on board. They, in consequence, prevailed on a cottager to take them in, imposing the French officers on the cottager for Guernsey merchants, who were pursued by the revenue officers. They remained concealed in the cottage till the 5th of October. At eleven o'clock that night, they went on board the vessel, the wind being fair for the coast of France; however, they had been to sea but a very short time, when a violent storm arose, which drove them back to the same place where they got on board. The vessel was not able to put them ashore; some of them were in consequence nearly drowned, not being able to swim, and the sea being up to their necks. At this time it was about three o'clock.

o'clock. It was their intention to have returned to the cottage, but on account of the darkness of the morning, and the noise occasioned by the storm, two of the officers missed the others and their conductors, and could not find the cottage. They wandered about till day-light, and then made inquiries of peasants and others that they met with. From their conduct they were suspected to be officers who had broke their parole of honour, and they were at length charged with being so. They behaved very candidly; and one of them, who spoke English very well, after very little hesitation, confessed the whole of their proceedings, and that he believed the other six were concealed in a cottage; but he could not tell where it was. The cottage was, after some difficulty traced, and the other six officers discovered there. The business came under investigation before G. H. Rose, Esq. M. P. the acting magistrate of that neighbourhood, who wrote up to London to the Transport Board; and Adkins and Vickery the Bow-street officers were dispatched in pursuit of the conductors. They have succeeded in taking into custody Rose the master of the vessel. Adkins took Culliford the principal conductor at Ilchester. He had been convicted before for a similar offence, and when he was then apprehended it required four men to secure him. Desperate resistance was therefore expected, but Adkins contrived to follow him into a stable, and with the assistance of a man, had handcuffs on him before he knew he was in custody. The officer conveyed him to Southampton, where he

underwent an examination last Wednesday before Mr. G. H. Rose, when he was identified by one of the French officers, and several other witnesses who corroborated his testimony. He was fully committed for trial. Vickery is in pursuit of others concerned in the transaction.

About six o'clock this evening, John Chaplin, a resident in Eagle and Child-alley, Fleet-market, went into a public-house in Shoe-lane, and called for a glass of gin, observing, with an oath, "that he had now done the deed." A young woman in the bar, observing his sleeves to be stained with blood, and knowing him to be a desperate character, and at times deranged, from an injury he had received in his head while in the army, immediately fainted away. This circumstance attracted the attention of several persons in the tap-room, some of whom secured him, while others repaired to his residence, on entering which, they were horror-struck at the sight of his wife, who lay extended a lifeless corpse, with her head nearly severed from her body. On Saturday night last he attempted her life, but a peace officer being called, he appeared pacified. The unhappy man was lodged in the Compter; from whence he was lately, greatly to the regret of the neighbourhood, discharged, having been confined at the instance of a respectable inhabitant of Shoe-lane; such was the art with which he conducted himself, as completely to deceive, with regard to his insanity, those who had him in charge.

11. *Dublin*.—Some time ago, a circumstance took place which made considerable

considerable noise in this city; a woman went into a grocer's shop, and having purchased some tea, &c. tendered a 100*l.* note for payment; the man, surprised at such a sum, said he could not change *that* note, but if she had another he would. She then produced another note for 100*l.*, then another, and so on to seven notes for 100*l.* each. The man then, and a neighbour, questioned her strictly, and threatened her. She then confessed that she had stolen them from a gentleman who visited her, and more of the same kind. The man and his friend detained the 700*l.* and advised her to run away; but she conceiving they meant to appropriate the money to their own use, went to the chief magistrate, and disclosed the circumstance, delivering up the remainder of the property, which amounted in all to 1,000*l.* in 100*l.* notes on Messrs. Ball, Plunket, and Doyne, bankers. The grocer, his friend, and the woman were then all confined, and the magistrates published the circumstance, and called upon the owner to come and claim his property at their office, but no one appeared. The singularity of the circumstance occasioned a variety of conjectures; some thought the owner must be, at least, the young heir of a dukedom—others, that he was some character high in the church, and ashamed to come forward. In the mean time, the magistrates were obliged to release the woman, who expressed a strong desire to restore the property, when she found it was to such amount, hoping he would not prosecute, but probably give her some reward. Of course many conjectures were afloat, and

numbers believed that the woman must have murdered the person from whom she had taken the property. Time passed away, and the circumstance was beginning to be forgot, when a young man, clerk to Ball, Plunket, and Co. bankers, accidentally entered the bar-room of a public-house; the woman, who happened to be there at the same time, immediately cried out—"That is the person from whom I took the notes." He was immediately detained by the people present, and notice sent to the magistrates, and to the bankers, but before they arrived he found means to escape. An investigation took place at the bank, and it was found that he had taken from time to time notes to the amount of 10,000*l.* A reward was offered, and he was taken, just ready to quit the kingdom. In one of his boots were concealed 7,500*l.* in notes, and his securities are answerable for 2,500*l.* which makes up the sum of which he had defrauded the bank. He is now lodged in Kilmainham gaol, to abide his trial.

13. Chaplin, who is in custody for the murder of his wife, on Friday would have added to the catalogue of his crimes by another murder, but for the interference of Ward, one of the turnkeys of the Compter. It appears, that since his commitment he has been double ironed and handcuffed. Having, however, begged them to be taken off for some necessary purpose, he asked a Chinaman, who is in the Compter, for a knife to cut his throat. The Chinaman having said, he had not got one, he instantly rushed upon him, tore his clothes, and searched every corner of them for the weapon; and being disappointed,

pointed, he seized a wooden bar, six feet long, and four inches in thickness, and raised it with the design to inflict a deadly blow on the poor Chinaman, when the interference of Ward prevented his intent. He was then again handcuffed; and on being asked the cause of this atrocious attempt, he said, "The devil had ordered him to wash the wall with the Chinaman's brains, and that he had only him and two more to kill, when he should be perfectly easy." He is now confined in a strait waistcoat. It turns out that this very man was brought before the sitting alderman on Friday se'nnight, charged by his wife with maltreating her; and, from the peaceable manner in which he conducted himself, and his positive assurances of future good behaviour, the alderman was induced to let him go at large. His wife then emphatically said, "If he was let loose, she should be a dead woman before the end of the next week." Her words were unhappily prophetic, for on the Monday evening she was murdered.

The miners employed in excavating the tunnel under the river Severn, at Newnham, discovered a small breach, through which the water issued. This, for a moment, they conceived was occasioned by a spring; but the aperture increasing, they were aware of their danger, and had barely time to be drawn up before the water filled the tunnel. This undertaking was completed to the extent of 226 yards, of the breadth of 12 feet, and 13 feet high.

Joseph Gibson, seaman of the Loire, sentenced to suffer death for maliciously stabbing Lieut. Croker,

suffered the sentence passed upon him, on board that ship at Spithead. When conducted to the forecastle he shook hands with Captain Brown and Lieut. Croker, whose forgiveness he entreated: he hoped his fate would be a warning to his shipmates. At eleven o'clock the fatal gun fired, and his spirit was dismissed into eternity. The unhappy man had been schoolmaster of the Loire, but his restless violent conduct not only deprived him of his situation, but caused his shipmates to avoid his company. He had belonged to the Superb ten years.

In consequence of the numerous robberies lately committed at Liverpool, a plan was laid by the police for the detection of the offenders. On this night, about nine o'clock, a party of the police-officers and special constables proceeded, in a hackney-coach, along the road leading from Everton towards Low-hill; when they were attacked by five men armed with a blunderbuss and pistols, who, with dreadful imprecations, broke the coach windows, opened both the doors, and demanded their money. Upon finding that the party in the inside were armed, the robbers fired the blunderbuss and pistols into the coach; and one of the constables having suffered himself to be robbed (agreeably to the directions he had received), a desperate affray took place: three of the constables were disabled very early, one by a slug through his arm, another by several cuts upon the head, and a third by a very severe cut over the eye: fortunately two of the footpads were secured.

The election of the sixteen peers,
to

to represent the peerage of Scotland, took place at Holyroodhouse.

The clerk read over the roll of peers commonly called the Union Roll; and, after reading the names of the dukes, the name of Charles Marquis of Queensberry was inserted as senior marquis of Scotland, pursuant to an order of the House of Lords last session, his lordship having proved his right to that title.

When the clerk called the Earl of Abercorn, the Earl of Aberdeen rose, and said, that his noble friend had given him a proxy; but, as he resided at present in Ireland, it was not in his power to qualify himself according to law, although, from his situation, as lieutenant of two counties in that kingdom, he clearly came within the limits of the act, which made provisions for preserving their privileges to such peers as were necessarily absent on his Majesty's service. His lordship, while he did not mean to press the reception of his vote, still thought that peers in his situation laboured under great hardships; and he pledged himself, if their lordships thought proper to return him their representative, to take measures for removing so obvious a grievance, and for preserving to their lordships the privilege of voting in whatever part of the three kingdoms they might reside. The Earl of Lauderdale and Lord Kinnaid entirely coincided with Lord Aberdeen, and hoped his lordship would bring the matter under the consideration of the House of Lords.

The usual ceremonies having been gone through, and votes marked, the clerks declared the

following lords to be duly elected, viz.—

*Charles Marq. of Queensbury	50
*George Earl of Rothes	48
James Earl of Caithness	39
Alexander Earl of Home	49
Thomas Earl of Kellie	50
George Earl of Dalhousie	50
Thomas Earl of Selkirk	47
Alexander Earl of Balcarras	49
George Earl of Aboyne	50
George Earl of Aberdeen	51
George Earl of Glasgow	49
James Lord Forbes	45
Alexander Lord Saltoun	48
*Francis Lord Grey	45
Charles Lord Sinclair	49
Francis Lord Napier	41

Those marked thus * are new peers in room of the Earls of Strathmore and Haddington, and Lord Cathcart.

Votes were also given for the following noblemen, viz.—

Duke of Roxburgh	1
Earl of Strathmore	1
Earl of Northesk	17
Lord Colville	1
Lord Reay	14
Lord Kinnaid	20

After the return was declared by the clerks, Lord Kinnaid protested against it, and expressed his intention of appealing elsewhere.

14. A few days ago, immediately after the late high tide, there was discovered under the cliffs between Lyme-Regis and Charmouth, the complete petrification of a crocodile, seventeen feet in length, in an imperfect state. It was dug out of the cliffs nearly on a level with the sea, at the depth of one hundred feet below the summit of the cliff.

16. *Bristol*.—An inquest was held here last week, on the body of

of John Allen, servant to Mr. Rogers, wholesale shoemaker, Ell-broad-street. It appeared in evidence, that the deceased had been upwards of 14 years in the employ of his master, at Stafford, and in this city, in the confidential situation of foreman, and that Mr. R. had for some time suspected that he had been robbed. Mr. Rogers, perceiving a journeyman whom he suspected coming to receive a certain quantity of goods, waited till he had been helped, when he demanded to see the quantity, which proved to be much greater than he was entitled to. This led to further inquiry, the effect of which was that the journeyman absconded, and the deceased, upon being taxed with a connection with him, likewise absented himself for a day or two; but he again came to his employ, when Mr. Rogers called him into his room, and acquainted him with the charges preferred against him, at which, in the first instance, he pretended much surprise; but his master persisting in his guilt, and on condition of his impeaching the whole of his accomplices, intimating hopes of pardon, he said with a sigh, "I have robbed you, sir." In reply, Mr. Rogers said, "Then how can such a criminal expect mercy from me?" and repeated, "how can you expect it, knowing the confidence I have reposed in you?" Allen, and his wife who had accompanied him, fell upon their knees, and implored pardon, exclaiming, "Oh! we have robbed the best of masters, and God will never forgive us!" To which Mr. Rogers replied, "that he was convinced he had not told the whole truth." Allen begged for time, and was detained by

Mr. Rogers at his own house, from half past seven in the morning till about a quarter past four in the afternoon, when, after taking a little refreshment, Mr. Rogers returned to the room in which he had left Allen, and on opening the door he beheld the unhappy culprit drawing a knife across his windpipe with great violence. Allen, on seeing him, endeavoured to stab Mr. R. and also a friend of the name of Haynes, who had come in to his assistance. An alarm being given, he was secured, but expired almost immediately. Verdict of the jury—*Felo de se*. On Tuesday evening, at five o'clock, the body was removed in a cart from Mr. Rogers' house, and buried in a cross-road, with the customary ceremonies. The number of spectators was immense, and the populace behaved with great decorum, appearing to feel the awfulness of the event.

19. John M'Crie, tenant in Halferne, near Castle Douglas, was lately found murdered in a field adjoining to his house. His skull was fractured, as if by the blows of a stone, and several paces from the place where the body lay, a quantity of blood was discovered. The particulars of this horrid transaction are not known; but the perpetrator appears to have been a man of the name of M'Lellan, whose farm is contiguous to that of Halferne. It is said that the parties had been mutually irritated by the trespassing of each other's cattle on their respective possessions: and it is known, that when M'Crie, who had been summoned to attend for the trespass at Castle Douglas, went out after breakfast to see if his cattle were
in

in their proper pasture, M'Lellan was labouring with his spade on the confines of his farm, in the immediate neighbourhood of the field where the body was found. This man, upon his going home, told his family that he had quarrelled with M'Cririe, and he believed that he had hurt him severely; and in about a minute after, he said, in seemingly great agitation, he feared he was killed, and desired them to go and inform his family where he was. While they were doing this, he absconded, and was seen wading through the river Dee, about one o'clock on the day of the murder. Though the most active means are employed for his apprehension, he has not since been heard of.

23. *Deal*.—The execution of Lieut. Gamage, for the murder of a serjeant of marines on board the Griffon sloop of war, pursuant to the sentence of a court-martial, took place this morning at ten o'clock, on board that ship. He bore his fate with fortitude. About eight o'clock he was attended by the clergyman, and remained with him till about half-past nine, when the procession began from his cabin to the platform, from whence he was to be launched into eternity. The clergyman walked first; then Lieut. Gamage, attended, on each side, by two friends, officers; several officers followed afterwards. Every one present was deeply affected at the unhappy fate of this young man; the ship's company particularly. Boats from the different ships attended, as usual, round the execution, and the same sympathy was observable in each—"God receive his soul," burst forth from different seamen. He bowed and

thanked them two or three times, and seemed deeply affected with the sympathy he excited. It is said, that he spoke shortly to his own crew, warning them to beware of giving way to sudden passion. As soon as he reached the platform, he prayed again with the clergyman; and precisely at ten o'clock, the signal gun being fired, he was run up to the yard-arm, amidst repeated exclamations from the seamen of, "God bless and receive him!" He appeared to suffer but little.

Previous to the execution the following circular address was sent by Admiral Foley to every ship in his fleet:—

"The commander in chief most earnestly desires to direct the particular attention of the fleet to the melancholy scene they are now called to attend—a scene which offers a strong, and much he hopes, an impressive lesson to every person in it—a lesson to all who are to command, and to all who are to obey. Lieutenant Gamage is represented by every person who knew him, and by the unanimous voice of the Griffon ship's company, as a humane, compassionate man, a kind indulgent officer; yet for want of that guard which every man should keep over his passions, this kind, humane, compassionate man, commits the dreadful crime of murder.

"Let his example strike deep into the minds of all who witness his unhappy end; and whatever their general disposition may be, let them learn from him, that if they are not always watchful to restrain their passions within their proper bounds, one moment of intemperate anger may destroy the hopes

hopes of a well spent honourable life, and bring them to an untimely and disgraceful death: and let those who are to obey, learn from the conduct of the serjeant, the fatal effects which may result from contempt and insolent conduct towards their superiors. By repeated insolence, the serjeant overcame the kind and gentle disposition of lieut. Gamage, and by irritating and inflaming his passions, occasioned his own death.

"The commander in chief hopes that this afflicting lesson may not be offered in vain; but, seriously contemplating the awful example before them, every officer and every man will learn from it, never to suffer himself to be driven by ill-governed passion to treat with cruelty or violence those over whom he is to command, nor by disobedience or disrespect to rouse the passions of those whom it is his duty to obey and respect.

(Signed) THOMAS FOLEY."

"To the respective captains and commanders of his majesty's ships and vessels in the Downs."

The body was brought on shore for interment at two o'clock, and was received at landing by the Governor of the Naval Hospital, who, with a number of naval and military officers, attended the remains to the burial-ground at the rear of the Naval Hospital where they were deposited. Captain Trollope, and the officers of the Griffon, with several of the crew, were present, and bore ample testimony, by their appearance, to the regret they felt at his untimely fate.

The crime for which this unfortunate young man suffered arose from an arbitrary command which

he gave to the serjeant of marines, to walk the quarter-deck with a musket on his shoulder like a private; which the serjeant refusing to obey, with some irritating language, Lieut. Gamage went down for his dirk, and coming up again, in his passion ran the man through the body, who expired on the spot. A court-martial brought in this offence *wilful murder*; and though great intercession was made to save him, the discipline of the navy was thought to demand his execution, especially as a sailor had lately been executed for assaulting his officer.

24. On Wednesday a whale, supposed to measure above 80 feet, was seen off Rye Bay, going up Channel. About one o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, two whales, of the above description, were discovered by the Dover fishermen, in Dover Roads, which so alarmed them, that they all made for the shore; the fishermen say, that a large sloop was alongside of the fish, going up Channel, when one of them spouted up such a quantity of water as to preclude them from the least sight of the vessel.

Sophia Edwards and Mary Nest, two female servants of the Rev John Gibbons, of Brasted, Kent, (one aged 22, and the other 19 years), were found drowned in a pond in the garden belonging to the parsonage-house of that place; and the same day an inquest was taken on their bodies, when the following circumstances were disclosed:—Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons had been from home several weeks, leaving their house to the care of these females, who, during the absence of their master and mis-

tress, had the misfortune to break some articles of furniture, and to spoil four dozen of knives and forks, by incautiously lighting a fire in an oven where they had been placed to keep them from rust. The unfortunate girls had, however, bought other knives and forks. Upon the return of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons (on Sunday, the 14th), the servants were severely reprimanded for what had happened, and one of them received notice to leave her place. They both appeared to be very uncomfortable during Sunday and Monday; and on the latter day the footman heard them in conversation respecting Martha Viner, a late servant in the same family, who had drowned herself in the pond in the garden; and observing one to the other, that she had done so through trouble. The elder then said to the younger, "We will have a swim to-night, Mary!" The other replied, "So we will, girl." The footman thought they were jesting, and said, "Aye, and I will swim with you." Sophia Edwards replied, "No, you shan't; but I will have a swim, and afterwards I will haunt you." After this conversation, they continued about their work as usual, and at six o'clock asked the footman to get tea for them; while he was in the pantry for that purpose, he heard the kitchen door shut, and on his return into the kitchen they were both gone. The footman afterwards thought he heard them up stairs, and therefore took no notice of their absence, until eight o'clock, when he told his master and mistress. Search was made for them about the house, garden, and neighbourhood, during the whole night;

and early on Tuesday morning the same pond was dragged which had so recently been the watery grave of Martha Viner, when both their bodies were found in it, lying close to each other. The jury returned a verdict of—*Found drowned.*

25. Between six and seven o'clock this evening, Mr. Wiggan, a respectable miller, who resided about two miles from Bridgnorth, was murdered between that place and his own house. He was on his return from Wolverhampton market, and was met by a footpad about a mile from home. It is supposed that, on making a stout resistance, the villain drew a pistol, and shot him through the body; the ball passed in a direct line just below his heart. It seems, however, that the assassin was alarmed by his cries, as he made off without taking any of his property, which consisted of between 50 and 60*l.* in cash and notes. It is remarkable, that the unfortunate man pursued his murderer after being shot, for about a hundred yards, and was found by some persons from a turnpike-house, who had heard his cries, exhausted with loss of blood, at a stile which he had in vain endeavoured to get over in his pursuit. He was carried to the house, where he expired in a few minutes. It is said, that the deceased was about being married to a lady of Wolverhampton.

26. In an application to the Court of King's Bench, for a criminal information against two persons for posting a merchant of London in a coffee-house for refusing a challenge, Lord Ellenborough pronounced sentence in the following terms:—

"Really it is high time to put a
stop

stop to this spurious chivalry of the compting house and the counter. The court has been for these two days occupied with cases of this sort: yesterday it was an angry linen-draper of Bristol, who had been a little time in a Local Militia; long enough to imbibe all the worst prejudices of the army, that thought proper to post a practising surgeon for not accepting a challenge; and to-day we have a mercantile man in the same predicament: instead of posting their books, these tradesmen are posting one another. The court desires it to be understood, that it is not necessary for the party applying for a remedy against such an outrage as this, to come perfectly unblemished before them; and that if it shall be shown to be necessary for public quiet and justice, they will interpose the remedy sought for. If the challenge in this case had been sent *eo instanti* upon the defendant's quitting the coffee-house, the court would have contemplated it as emanating from the venial irritation of the moment; but it appears that he at first applied to the prosecutor for an apology, upon the refusal of which, his friend the other defendant, was sent upon this mischievous and malignant mission to the prosecutor, in the country; and then, because a man refuses to be hunted down when dining out at a friend's house, and challenged at six o'clock in the evening, he is to be posted for a coward at Lloyd's coffee-house the next morning."—*Rule absolute.*

2. *Falmouth.*—"A most melancholy occurrence took place here this afternoon. Our church being enlarging, it was thought necessary to take part of the materials of the

old wall to form the new one; this it was supposed, had weakened the old wall, and this afternoon, part of the plaster having fallen down, the congregation became alarmed, and made a sudden effort to rush out: in the confusion many were trodden down; many were taken up apparently lifeless: four have since died; and there are at least 15 persons more in a dangerous state, from the bruises they have received."

30. His Royal Highness the Prince Regent went in state to open the new parliament, and it being eight years since the king attended parliament, great interest was made for tickets of admission to the House of Peers. The Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Mary, came to town from Windsor; and, with the Princess Charlotte of Wales, were conducted to the House by the Duke of Cumberland.

At one o'clock the Prince Regent went from Carlton-house to St. James's Palace, where he was received by the Lord Chamberlain and officers of the household. His Royal Highness was dressed in regimentals, and was conducted to the levee-room, where he remained till the state carriages were announced to be in readiness; when his Royal Highness and his attendants entered the carriages, of which there were four. In the first carriage were the Equerries and Page of Honour; in the 2d, the Earl of Macclesfield, Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, the grooms in waiting, and gentlemen ushers. In the 3d, the Earl of Harrington, gold stick in waiting; and in the 4th, the Prince Regent, attended by the Duke of Montrose,

the Master of the horse, and Earl Poulett, the lord in waiting. The carriages were preceded by a numerous body of the Royal Horse Guards, who were followed by four marshalmen, sixteen footmen in state liveries, and a party of the Yeomen of the Guard. The procession arrived at the House of Peers at two o'clock, and the Prince Regent being robed, ascended the throne, and delivered the speech. His Royal Highness's robes were held up by General Keppel, and Mr. Cavendish Bradshaw. On returning from the House, the Prince wore a blue great coat trimmed with gold lace, gold frogs, fringe, &c.

It being the first time the cream-coloured horses had worked in harness, a groom was appointed to attend each of them, and they were ordered to be very particular in taking the angle from Cleveland-row into the stable-yard; unfortunately they took too great a sweep, and the off hind wheel of the coach coming in contact with the post at the corner of the foot-path leading to the Marquis of Stafford's house, the shock tore up three of the curb stones, broke a sway-bar, and threw the state coachman off the box; he fell between the wheel horses, but received no other injury than cutting his lip; he did not loose his reins, and was on the box again instantly. The Prince looked out of the windows of the coach, and satisfied himself of the safety of the coachman. The accident detained the procession for some time.

Notwithstanding the wetness of the day, the streets, houses, and public buildings were filled with spectators. A military band was

placed at St. James's palace, and another at the House of Peers; and the cannon in St. James's park fired a salute when his Royal Highness descended from the throne. The park and streets through which the procession passed, were kept clear by the 16th, and another regiment of dragoons.

DECEMBER.

2. A convocation of the clergy in the Diocese of Canterbury, was held at the Jerusalem chamber, in Dean's-yard, Westminster, when an address to the Prince Regent was agreed upon. Yesterday was the day appointed by his Royal Highness to receive the same. The convocation accordingly assembled in the same place and proceeded at three o'clock in grand procession to Carlton House; the Bishops being dressed in their lawn sleeves and robes, and the other dignified clergymen in their canonicals. The Archbishop of Canterbury, attended by his chaplains, and other attendants; the Bishops of London, Lincoln, Salisbury, and Oxford; the Dean of Christ Church, Dr. Hall, as prolocutor; Dr. Fines, Prebendary of Westminster; Dr. Vyse, Archdeacon of Lichfield; Dr. Hughes, Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's; the Rev. Mr. Pott, Archdeacon of St. Albans; and others of the clergy. Soon after their arrival they were conducted by the Lord Chamberlain to the Prince Regent, who was seated on his throne to receive them. The address was read by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Prince returned a suitable answer. His Royal Highness

ness was attended by the Lord Chamberlain, the First Lord of the Treasury, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Master of the Horse, the Comptroller of the Household, the Treasurer of the Household, the Lord Groom, and Equerries in waiting.

Huddersfield Dec. 3.—The spirit of Luddism which was thought to be extinct, has again appeared and raged with more than usual violence. Last Sunday night, about a quarter past nine o'clock, a number of men armed with pistols or short guns, one of them with the lower part of his face covered with a black handkerchief, entered the house of Mr. W. Walker, of New Hall, near Huddersfield, cloth manufacturer; and after taking from him a gun, a pistol, and powder horn, demanded his money, and obtained from him about 15*l.* in notes, the whole of which they offered to return him except one, if he would give them a guinea in gold; not being aware of this decoy, he took out a small purse, containing five guineas, which they immediately seized, and took all the gold, without returning the notes. The chief then proceeded to ransack his papers, while others of the party presented their pieces at Mr. Walker, and after cautioning the family; on pain of death, not to quit the house for two hours after, they departed.

The same gang, on the same night, proceeded to the house of a shopkeeper at Fartown, from whom they took a gun, with silver and notes to the amount of 20*l.* together with a pair of silver tea-tongs, and two silver tea-spoons; not content with this booty, they went into the cellar, and seized

a bottle of rum and some provisions. From thence they went to a farmer's house near Fixby; four men entered, two of them armed with blunderbusses, a third with a gun, and the other with a pistol; their first demand was for arms, but on being told that the family had neither arms nor money, they ordered "Enoch, Captain, Serjeant, and Hatchetmen, to enter;" but on promising to find them some money, they returned at the word of command. Here they received 5*l.*—They next proceeded to the house of Mr. James Brook of Bracken-hall, in Fartown, where, after conducting themselves in an outrageous manner, they took his watch, a pound note, and four shillings in silver. From thence they marched to John Wood's, where, after breaking the door and windows, and rummaging the house, they called over the numbers from one to nine, and went away. They then went to the house of Mr. William Radcliffe, at Woodside, where they obtained 11*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* six guineas in gold, and between two and three pounds in silver, a quantity of tea, sugar, liquors, and plate. Their last visit was to the house of Moses Ball, Gilly Royd, which they plundered of two pounds in silver.

7. The fair of Castlemain exhibited a scene of riot and outrage. Two parties for some days before were preparing for the conflict, which commenced at an early hour; but in a short time one clan, by a preconcerted plan, retreated precipitately, while the other rapidly advanced, until they proceeded to some distance on the road to Anna, when the retreating party fled off to the right and left, and

and got over the ditches, where no inconsiderable number of their friends lay in ambush, who, being well armed, discharged a volley of small arms, loaded with ball, swan-shot, &c. at their assailants, which did considerable execution. Among the sufferers, were David Barry, farmer of Fieries, killed on the spot, having received a ball in the breast; Daniel Tangney, of Currens, a ball in the body, removed to this town, still languishing without hope of recovery; James Collis of Ballycrisp, skull fractured; Charles M'Carry, of Gurtannuck, dangerously wounded in the side by a ball. There are many others who received injuries of a less dangerous nature.—(*Kerry Herald*).

Bank-Notes.—An account of the amount of Bank of England Notes, and Bank Post Bills has just been presented to the House of Commons, whence it appears, that on Saturday, the 5th instant, there were in circulation,—

	£.
Bank-notes of 5 <i>l.</i> and upwards - - - -	14,337,950
Ditto under 5 <i>l.</i> - - -	7,604,790
Post bills - - - -	1,004,860

Total. £29,947,600

Bank-Tokens.—An account of the amount of all the Silver Tokens issued by the Bank of England, from the 14th of April, 1812, inclusive, to the 10th of December 1812, inclusive.

	£.	s.
2,326,244 Silver Tokens, of 3 <i>s.</i> each -	348,936	12
1,347,766 Ditto, of 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> each - - - -	101,082	9
	£450,019	1

An account of the total amount of all the Silver Tokens issued by the Bank of England, from the 9th of July, 1811, to the 10th of Dec. 1812, inclusive,—

	£.	s.	d.
9,548,690 Silver Tokens of 3 <i>s.</i> each - - - -	1,432,303	10	0
4,708,937 Ditto of 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> each	353,170	5	6

£1,785,473 15 6

N. B. The Tokens are of the Dollar standard. The weight of the 3*s.* Token is 9 dwts. 11 grs.; the weight of the 1*s.* 6*d.* Token is 4 dwts. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ grs.

The following are the letters from the Marquisses of Buckingham and Camden, offering for the public service parts of the produce of their offices as Tellers of the Exchequer. The Lords of the Treasury, in consequence of their offers, requested them to pay their respective sums into the Bank of England, as voluntary contributions.

(Copy). No. 1.

The Marquisses Buckingham and Camden to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Exchequer, Nov. 21st, 1812.

SIR;—Under the impression which we entertain of the increased sacrifices to which the country will in all probability be called, by the pressure upon its resources, in a moment of unexampled expense and difficulty, we are anxious to express, through you, our desire and intention of contributing our voluntary aid to the expenses of the war; we therefore request you, as the regular official channel of communication from the Exchequer to the Lords Commissioners

Commissioners of the Treasury, to signify to them our intention of paying, in aid of the general services of the year, and in quarterly payments, one-third of the nett profits arising from the salary and fees of our respective Tellerships of the Exchequer.

We propose, and intend, to continue this voluntary contribution for and during the present war, and commence it from and after the present quarter ending on the 5th of January next.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obed. humble servants,
(Signed) NUGENT BUCKINGHAM,
CAMDEN.

To the Right Hon. the Chancellor
of the Exchequer, &c.

(Copy). No. 5.

Th Marquisses Buckingham and
Camden to the Chancellor of
the Exchequer.

Exchequer, Dec. 11th, 1812.

SIR ;—As it is understood, from the discussions that have taken place in the House of Commons, on the subject of the public revenues, that the expenses of the ensuing year will probably exceed those of the present, we think it right, in explanation of the letter which we had the honour of addressing to you on the 21st of November last, to state to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, that if in any year during the present war, the nett profits of the several fees and salaries received in our offices in the Exchequer, should exceed those of the current year, it is our intention, in every such year, to pay, as our voluntary contribution to the public, in addition to the one-third of

our profits as stated in that letter, the whole of such excess beyond the nett receipts of the present year.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obed. humble servants,
(Signed) NUGENT BUCKINGHAM,
CAMDEN.

To the Right Hon. the Chancellor
of the Exchequer, &c.

14. At the mill of Elrick, near Edinburgh, the miller, of the name of Walker, his wife, and a child, were all found dead in their sleeping apartment. The preceding evening, in a small bed-room in which they slept, a quantity of wet shellings of oats had been put on the fire, for the purpose of preserving it during the night; and the smoke thereby occasioned, spreading through the room, it is supposed proved fatal to this unfortunate family.

15. There is now at Mr. Sheriff Blades's, on Ludgate Hill, a set of Chandeliers, which has been ordered for his Highness the Nabob, Secunder Tale Behauder, Subahdar of the Dekan; and nothing that was ever seen from Germany, Venice, or France, can bear a comparison with it for richness, elegance, or magnitude. The principal chandelier is, we understand, eleven feet long, and four feet and a half in diameter, with thirty lamps in three circles; it weighs five cwt. and is valued at 1,000 guineas. This is considered as the finest piece of workmanship hitherto produced in England, and decidedly superior to the celebrated one, sent as a present some years since, to the Grand Seigneur by his Majesty. Two others, of sixteen lamps each, and of equal taste,
with

with sixteen smaller, complete the set. They are to be the ornaments of the palace at Hyderabad. The great chandelier is to be suspended at the head of a state staircase, 50 feet high; the two smaller, crowned with golden circlets, and wreathed at the foot with ornaments of grapes and vine-leaves, to be in the center of the banqueting-room; the sixteen others to range along the wall. The whole are designed by Mr. F. Jones.

18. The Alban cutter, Lieutenant Key, was driven in from her station on the coast of Holland, and being forced on shore at Aldborough, in Suffolk, became a complete wreck. Out of a crew of 56 men, only one seaman was saved. The surgeon, Mr. Thompson, came on shore with some life in him, but died immediately after. There were also three women and two children on board, of whom one woman, the servant of Mrs. Key, was saved.

The following particulars of the loss of this vessel are stated by a gentleman who was a spectator of this deplorable catastrophe. He says, that the cutter had been cruising, or was going to cruise, on the coast of Holland;—that, owing, it is supposed, to the ignorance of the pilot, she had struck on a sand-bank, when they were obliged to throw the guns overboard, and cut away their mast, after which they drifted at the mercy of most tremendous weather for three days, when they were driven, on Friday morning, at eight o'clock, on the beach in front of the town of Aldborough. The surf was so high that no boat could be put off; but the beach being steep, the vessel was thrown up very high, and the

tide retreating, the people of the town were soon able to reach the vessel. Though all the crew seemed to be safe at eight, by nine there were only three remaining alive—a young man, a woman (servant to the captain's wife), and the surgeon. The crew consisted of 56, Mrs. Key, wife of Lieutenant Key, who commanded the vessel, and two children. The surgeon unaccountably jumped overboard at the time that relief was giving to them, and was lost. The great loss of lives seems to have been occasioned by the state of intoxication of the men, some of whom were found drowned in the vessel. As the cutter did not go to pieces, it is difficult otherwise to account for such a melancholy catastrophe.

18. On Friday night a fire broke out at the Swan Inn, Wangford, Essex, which in less than two hours destroyed the whole of those extensive premises, together with the stock, furniture, &c. Great fears were at one period entertained for the safety of the greater part of the village; but fortunately, by the activity of the inhabitants, the flames were prevented spreading further. A poor old woman, 83 years of age, who was an inmate, perished in the flames.

Belfast, Dec. 19th.—On Thursday morning, about three o'clock, the new raised men on board the Neptune tender, lying in the Lough, broke through the pressroom, and took possession of the vessel. After confining the crew of the tender below, and securing the hatches, they lowered down the boats, and twenty-six chiefly impressed men, effected their escape, and proceeded towards the shore. Owing, however, to the tempestuous weather,
or

or their ignorance of the channel, it is supposed the boats struck on the banks, and the men, attempting to wade to land, it is feared have all perished, as at daylight one of the boats was found on shore, and two dead bodies lying near it. Six hats and several bundles of clothes were also picked up.

21. *Portsmouth.*—The *Fortune*, cartel, returned to that port from Morlaix, having on board an interesting woman, a native of Ireland, 22 years of age, who having been married to Colonel Berthon, a French officer of artillery, lately on his parole at Chesterfield, received the permission of this government to follow her husband to France, and embarked for that purpose at Portsmouth on the 17th of August last; but has now been cruelly driven back, together with her son, an infant of 19 months old, by order of the French authorities, and is arrived at Portsmouth as above mentioned, in a state of the greatest misery and distress, destitute of the means of subsistence for an hour, until relieved at the charge of this government, as is done in all cases of English women arriving from France in a state of distress. The conduct of the French government towards this unfortunate young woman affords an additional proof of a fact which cannot be too publicly known,—namely, that all marriages contracted by French subjects, detained in foreign countries as prisoners of war, are considered by the present French laws as totally invalid.

Carlisle, Dec. 26.—Robberies.—Saturday night about eight o'clock, as Mr. Hudson Scott, of Caldbeck, was returning from Carlisle market, he was stopped and robbed by three footpads, on Hawksdale Pasture.—As Mr. Irwin, of Newhouses, Salport, in company with Mr. Tinniswood, were returning home from Brompton-market, on Tuesday evening last, between six and seven o'clock, they were attacked by four footpads, between Brampton and Irthing-bridge, who robbed the former of bank-notes to the amount of 18*l.* with which the villains made their escape.—Monday night, about six o'clock, as Mr. Raper, of Bothwell, was returning from Wigton, he was stopped near Red Dial, by four villains, who robbed him of 8 guinea notes, and a parcel of cloth. Tuesday morning a poor man was robbed of 10*l.* on the road betwixt Penrith and Appleby, by two villains, who inflicted such wounds upon his person, that in consequence he is since dead.—Wednesday night last, the weaving shop of John Robinson, of Cumwhinton, was broken into, and two webs cut in the looms, which were taken away with the cloth beams.

28. A party of Luddites, eight in number, this evening entered the house of Henry Cox, of Beeston, Nottinghamshire, one of whom stood guard over the woman (who happened to be the only inhabitant then in the house), while the remainder proceeded up stairs into the workshop, where they broke and destroyed an 84 gauge yard wide frame.

BIRTHS.

January.

Lady Mary Ross, a son and heir.

Lady Kenyon, a son.

The wife of E. Morris, Esq. M. P. an infant; died very soon.

Lady Wigram, a daughter.

The wife of Sir R. Graham, a daughter.

In Dublin, Lady Lucy Anne Cassan, a son.

February.

Lady Sarah Murray, a daughter.

Lady Burrell, a son.

The wife of J. Owen, Esq. M. P. a still-born son.

The wife of J. Smith, Esq. M. P. a son.

Lady Harriet Bagot, a son.

Lady La Call, a daughter.

The Hereditary Princess of Bavaria, a son. Maximilian.

Lady Ellenborough, a daughter.

Lady of Sir Thomas Tancred, Bart. a daughter.

Lady Twisden, a son.

The Countess of Loudon and Moira, a daughter.

The wife of William Gordon, Esq. M. P. a son.

Countess of Cork, a son.

The wife of the Hon. Lieut. Colonel Brand, a daughter.

Lady of Sir J. Shelley, a son.

The wife of Major-Gen. Loft, M. P. a son.

The wife of J. Dent, Esq. M. P. a son.

The wife of N. R. Colborne, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

The wife of the Hon. Lieut.-Gen. F. St. John, a son.

Lady Honeywood, a son and heir.

March.

Lady Elizabeth Talbot, a son.

At the Bishop of Lincoln's, the wife of William Edward Tomline, Esq. a daughter.

Lady of Lord St. Asaph, a daughter.

April.

Wife of Henry Howard, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

Viscountess Hamilton, a daughter.

Viscountess Grimstone, a son.

Viscountess Duncan, a son and heir.

The wife of Major-Gen. Burr, a daughter.

The wife of Major-Gen. Reynolds, a daughter.

Mrs. Fitzgerald, wife of the Knight of Kerry, a daughter.

Lady of the Hon. C. Anderson Pelham, a son.

Countess Dalhousie, a son.

Viscountess Primrose, a son.

Lady Deerhurst, a daughter.

May.

The Duchess of Leeds, a son.

Hon. Mrs. Codrington, a daughter.

Hon. Mrs. Werninck, a daughter.

Wife of George Gipps, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

Wife of G. T. Estcourt, Esq. M. P. a son.

Lady of J. R. Gossett, Esq. a son.

Lady Charlotte Baillie, a daughter.

Duchess of Castries, a daughter.

Lady

Lady E. Murray, a still-born child.

Wife of Hon. Windham Quin, a son and heir.

Wife of B. Hall, Esq. M.P. a son.

Wife of R. Kemp, Esq. M. P. a son.

Lady Home Popham, a son.

Lady Graves, a daughter.

Countess of Lindsay, a daughter.

June.

Hon. Mrs. Barnard, a son.

Lady Romilly, a still-born child.

Lady W. Beauclerk, a son.

Lady Holland, a daughter.

Hon. Mrs. Jenkinson, a daughter.

Wife of J. Ireland Blackburn, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

July.

Duchess of Bedford, a daughter.

Wife of Alexander Hope, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

Lady Williams, a daughter.

Wife of Hon. H. Gardiner, a daughter.

Lady Jerningham, a son.

Wife of Lieut.-Col. Baron de Montalembert, a son.

Lady Liddell, a son.

Viscountess Ikerrin, a daughter.

August.

Marchioness of Downshire, a son and heir.

Lady of Sir Edwin Bayntun Sandys, Bart. a son.

Wife of W. Astell, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

Wife of Hon. Alexander Murray, a daughter—(*June.*)

Wife of Eugene Beauharnois, a daughter—(*July.*)

Lady Boughey, a daughter.

Lady Elizabeth Montgomery, a daughter.

Lady Auchterfardle, a son and heir.

Lady Francis Ley, a son.

Wife of G. Smith Esq. M. P. a daughter.

Lately, Countess of Romney, a daughter.

Hon. Mrs. Tennant, a son.

Wife of C. W. Wynne, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

Lady of Sir J. Gore, a son.

September.

Hon. Mrs. J. Palmer, a daughter.

Lady Dynevor, a son.

Lady of Sir H. Fitzherbert, Bart. a daughter.

Lady A. Sophia Drummond, a son.

Lady Brydges, a still-born son.

Countess of Galway, a daughter.

Lady of Lord Granville Leveson Gower, a daughter.

Lady Foley, a daughter.

Lady Mary Markham, a daughter.

Duchess of Newcastle, a daughter.

Hon. Mrs. Buchanan, a son.

Lady of Sir Edward Smythe, Bart. a daughter.

Hon. Mrs. Sneyd, a son.

Lady of Sir William Hunloke, a son and heir.

October.

Hon. Mrs. Davis, a son.

At Dublin, Hon. Mrs. Hope, a son.

Lady of Earl Talbot, a son.

Lady

Lady Brownlow, a son.

Sept. At Palermo, Right Hon.

Lady Montgomerie, a son.

Lady Lindsay,

Lately, Lady H. Fitzroy, a daughter.

Lady of M. White, Esq. M. P. a son.

Lady of Gen. Sir Robert Wilson, a son.

Lady of Sir Thomas Dyke Ackland, Bart. a son.

Countess of Shannon, a daughter.

November.

Countess of Clonmell, a daughter.

Lady of the Hon. Robert Curzon, a son.

Lady of Sir H. C. Montgomery, Bart. a daughter.

Lately, Viscountess Harwarden, a daughter.

Wife of G. H. Drummond, Esq. M. P. a son.

December.

Lady of Right Hon. G. Canning, a son.

Lady Bagot, a son.

At Stockholm, the wife of E. Thornton, Esq. Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary at that Court, a son.

The wife of J. Archer Houblon, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

Peel, bart. M. P. to Emily, second daughter of J. Swinfen, esq.

Henry Fynes, esq. M. P. for Aldborough, to Katharine, third daughter of the bishop of Bangor.

Captain Cochrane, R. N. eldest son of vice admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, to Miss Ross Wishart, eldest daughter of lieutenant-general Sir Charles Ross, bart.

Charles Whitaker, esq. of Rosefield, Lincolnshire, to Eliza, eldest daughter of Samuel Horrocks, esq. M. P.

G. Woods, esq. only son of John Woods, esq. county Dublin, to Sarah, only daughter of Hans Hamilton, esq. M. P.

At Baron's-court, Tyrone, Sir C. T. Morgan, of London, to Sydney, eldest daughter of the Irish comedian, Owenson, and author of "The Wild Irish Girl," and "Woman, or Ida of Athens."

T. D. Blonder, esq. of Kippax-park, Yorkshire, to Apollonea, daughter of Lord Stourton.

Major-general Oswald Younger, of Dunhikier, to Charlotte Murray Aynsley, daughter of the late Lord Charles Aynsley.

Lately, Lord Palmerston, to Miss Sullivan.

Dennis M'Carthy, esq. to Anne; daughter of Richard Power, esq. M. P.

Chappel Woodhouse, esq. to Amelia, daughter of Sir Charles Oakley, bart.

At Gretna Green, hon. William H. Lambton, esq. of Durham, to Miss Cholmondeley, daughter of the late celebrated Madam St. Alban.

February.

Rev. Walter Radcliff, of Warleigh-

MARRIAGES.

January.

C. T. Wood esq. of Thoresby, county of Lincoln, to Jane, only daughter of Sir John Thorold, of Syston Park.

E. Peel, esq. third son of Sir R.

leigh-house, county of Devon, to Miss Abbey Emma Franco, niece of Sir Manasseh Lopes, bart.

Edward Thornycroft, esq. to Anne, Dowager Viscountess Barington.

The Earl of Ilchester, to Caroline, second daughter of the late Lord G. Murray, bishop of St. David's.

Lord Berwick, to Miss Sophia Dubochét.

John Parkinson, esq. to Frances, daughter of the late T. Foster, esq. member of the late Irish parliament.

— Macdonald, esq. to Lady Caroline Edgcumbe, second daughter of Earl Mount Edgcumbe.

Sir Alexander Mackenzie, of Arock, county of Ross, to Miss Geddes Mackenzie.

J. Storey, esq. of Bingfield, county of Cavan, to Louisa, daughter of Sir P. Gay, bart.

L. H. Kingston, esq. second son of J. Kingston, esq. M. P. to Frances Sophia Rooke, daughter of the late hon. Mr. Justice Rooke.

In Dublin, Matthew Talbot, esq. eldest son of W. Talbot, esq. of Castle T., to Anne, only daughter and heiress of the late Edward Bourke, esq.

J. L. Yates, esq. of the army pay-office, to Arabella, daughter of P. Reinagle, esq. R. A.

Sir Francis Hartwell, bart. to Miss Aldridge.

Thomas Butler, esq. eldest son of Sir R. Butler, bart. to Frances, daughter of J. G. Clarke, esq. Durham.

Sir J. Blunden, bart, to Miss Helsham.

At Cassel, the Prince of Hesse Philipsthal, to the Princess Caroline, of Hesse Philipsthal.

March.

G. H. Elliott, esq. lieutenant 20th light dragoons, to Mary, daughter of major-general Slay.

Honourable W. Elliot, brother to Lord Elliot, to the eldest daughter of Lieutenant-general Robinson, of Denston-hall, Suffolk.

William Wellesley Pole, esq. to Miss Long, eldest daughter of the late Sir T. Long, bart.

J. Vetch, jun. M. D. to Henrietta Maria, eldest daughter of Sir Alexander Grant.

In Dublin, Lord Ennismore, to Miss Latham.

Major William Napier, 43 light infantry, to Caroline, daughter of the late General Fox.

Benjamin Burnett, esq. of the Crown Office, to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Burnett.

At Edinburgh, Major-general the honourable Alexander Duff, to Anne, daughter of the late James Stein, esq.

I. H. Holder, esq. to Anne, daughter of the late Rev. Jeffery Ekins, dean of Carlisle.

Lord Charles Townshend, to the daughter of General and the late Lady Elizabeth Loftus.

Lately, the eldest son of Sir T. Whichcote, to Lady J. Sherard, daughter of the late Earl of Harborough.

Robert Nixon, esq. Major of 1st foot, to Cath. Henrietta, daughter of Colonel Ram, M. P.

April.

At Petersburg, Sir Robert Ker Porter to the Princess Maria Scherbatoff.

Major-general Lindsey, to Miss J. Baillie.

Sir

Sir Humphrey Davy, to Mrs. Apreece.

Colonel J. W. H. Brydges, to the right honourable Lady Isabella Anne Beresford, sister to the Marquis of Waterford.

J. M. Woolcombe, esq. of Ashbury, Devon, to Anna Eleonora, eldest daughter of the late Admiral Sir T. Louis, bart. of Cadewell. Also on the same day, the Rev. H. Woolcombe to Jane Frances, second daughter of the admiral.

Major S. G. Newport, to Priscilla, sister of Sir B. Graham, bart. of Norton Conyers-hall, Yorkshire.

F. M. Smith, esq. to Caroline, daughter of Major-general Nepean.

Vice-Admiral Sir R. Strachan, bart. and K. B. to Miss Louisa Dillon.

Captain Goodwin, 60 regiment, to Caroline, daughter of the hon. C. Smelt, lieutenant-governor of the Isle of Man.

Rev. G. Augustus Baker, son of Sir Robert Baker, bart. to Sophia, daughter of Peter Sherston, esq.

Rev. Sir Henry Rivers, bart. to Miss Eales.

May.

Timothy Yeates Brown, esq. only son of Timothy Brown, esq. of Peckham-lodge, to Mary-Anne, eldest daughter of the late B. Goldsmid, esq.

G. Baker, esq. eldest son of J. Baker, esq. M. P. to Mary-Anne, eldest daughter of the Rev. Gerard Andrewes, D. D. dean of Canterbury.

John Burke, esq. eldest son of Sir Thomas Burke, bart. and colonel of the 98th regiment, to Eliz. Mary, eldest daughter of John Calcraft, esq. M. P.

At Bangulpore, Edward Watson, esq. judge and magistrate of Benares, to Margaret, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Bathie, of Hammer-smith.—(Nov.)

At Dublin, Captain Lumley, son of the honourable F. Lumley, to Miss Beresford, daughter of the bishop of Kildare.

Justinian Isham, esq. eldest son of Sir J. Isham, bart. to Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. S. Close.

William Beauchamp Proctor, esq. captain R. N. eldest son of Sir T. B. Proctor, bart. to the eldest daughter of T. Gregory, esq.

At Edinburgh, William Somerville, esq. deputy-inspector of army hospitals, to Mrs. Greig, daughter of Adm. Sir W. G. Fairfax, R. N.

At Lambeth Palace, R. N. Sutton, esq. third son of Sir R. Sutton, bart. to Mary Georgiana, daughter of J. Manners Sutton, esq. of Belham, Notts, niece of the archbishop.

At Bath, Rev. Dr. Walsh of the Circus, to Miss Eleanor Newcome, daughter of the Lord Primate of Ireland.

Honourable T. Cranley Onslow, second son of Viscount Cranley, to the second daughter and coheirress of the late N. Hillier, esq. of Stokeport, Guildford.

Rev. J. Slade, A. M. rector of Teversham, Cambridgeshire, to Augusta, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Law, since elected bishop of Chester.

Lord Delvin, eldest son of the Earl of Westmeath, to Lady Emily Cecil, second daughter of the Marquis of Salisbury.

Lately, Peter Smith, M. D. R. N. to Henrietta, daughter of hon. Henry Erskine.

George Clifford, esq. youngest son

son of the late honourable T. Clifford, of Tixall, to Mary, eldest daughter of W. H. Coney, esq. of Weston Coney.

Charles Wynne Griffith Wynne, esq. of Voelas Hall, Denbighshire, to Sarah, daughter of Rev. Henry Hillyard, of Stokely, Yorkshire.

June.

Honourable Henry St. John, eldest son of Viscount Bolingbroke, to the second daughter of the late Sir H. St. John Mildmay.

Richard Chenevix, esq. to the Countess of Rouault.

Sir R. Bromley, bart to the youngest daughter of Dan. Wilson, esq. of Dallam-tower, Westmorland.

Sir Grenville Temple, bart, to Mrs. Frederick Manners, daughter of the late Sir T. Rumbold.

At Stonehouse, Sir J. Gordon Sinclair, bart. to Anne, daughter of the honourable Vice-Admiral Michael de Courcy.

Rev. Townsend Selwyn, to Charlotte Sophia, daughter of Lord G. Murray, late Bishop of St. David's.

At Lisbon, the Earl of Euston, eldest son of the Duke of Grafton, to Mary, daughter of the honourable Admiral G. C. Berkeley.

Adolphus John Dalrymple, esq. major 19th light dragoons, eldest son of Sir Hugh Dalrymple, to Anne, daughter of Sir James Graham.

Viscount Ashbrook, to Emily Theophila, eldest daughter of Sir Theophilus Metcalfe, bart.

At the Cove of Cork, Captain Young, to Mary, daughter of the late Sir Edwin Jeynes, of Gloucester.

At Eskgrove, Scotland, C. P. Hay, esq. captain in the East India Company's service, to Helen, eldest daughter of Sir David Rae, bart.

July.

In Dublin, Lieutenant-colonel Wardlaw, 76th regiment, to the honourable Anne, daughter of the late Viscount Lake.

J. Weld, esq. of Cowfield-house, Wilts, to the honourable Julia Petre, daughter of Lord Petre.

Rev. C. Prowett, nephew of the Bishop of Norwich, to Cecilia, daughter of Sir W. Wolseley, bart.

Rev. H. Cripps, second son of Joseph Cripps, esq. M. P. to Judith, daughter of W. Lawrence, esq.

Viscount Montjoy, to Mrs. Brown.

At Dublin, J. Ferguson, esq. of Londonderry, to Georgiana, daughter of the late Sir G. Ribton, bart.

Henry Vansittart, esq. to the widow of the late Sir C. Turner, bart.

Lord Walpole, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late W. Falkener, esq. clerk of the privy council.

C. Wolseley, esq. eldest son of Sir W. Wolesley, bart. to Anne, daughter of A. Wright, esq.

Major W. M. Combe, R. M. to Eliza, daughter of Lieutenant-general Barclay.

Peter Middleton, esq. of Stockfield Park, to the honourable Juliana, daughter of Lord Stourton.

J. F. Fitzgerald, knight, county of Limerick, to Bridget, daughter of the Rev. Joseph Eyre.

Rev. J. G. T. Fortescue to Frances Henrietta, eldest daughter of the

the late Sir T. Dyke Ackland, bart.

Lately, R. Wigram, esq. M. P. to Selina, sister of Sir T. P. Hayes, bart.

Captain H. Wyndham, royal 10th hussars, to Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Charles Somerset.

Rev. J. W. Keating, D. D. dean of St. Patrick's, to Mary-Anne, daughter of Meade Hobson, esq.

Rev. Robert Ekins, son of the late Dr. Ekins, dean of Salisbury, to the daughter of Sir C. Warre Malet, bart.

W. P. Cruise, esq. to Helen, daughter of the late Sir J. Meridith, bart. of Newton.

At the Deanery, Jersey, J. R. Meadows, esq. major of the 10th foot, to Mary daughter of the very Rev. Dr. Dupré, dean of Jersey.

August.

Lieutenant-colonel Mellish, to Harriet, daughter of the Marchioness Dowager of Landsdowne.

Honourable W. Waldgrave, brother to Lord Waldgrave, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of S. Whitbread, esq. M. A.

B. Pope Blanchford, esq. M. P. to Lady Isabella Fitzroy, daughter of the late Duke of Grafton.

Major Graham, King's dragoon guards, to Maria, daughter of the late, R. Lambert, esq.

Honourable Basil Cochrane, to Mrs. Lawrey.

J. Walmsley, jun. esq. of Bath, to the daughter of R. Long, esq. M. P.

Lieut. gen. honourable H. Grey, of Falloden, Northumberland, to the daughter of Sir C. Des Vocux, bart. Queen's County.

Lieutenant-colonel Udney, to the daughter of the late T. Fitzhugh, esq.

J. Scandred Harford, esq. eldest son of J. H. Scandred, esq. of Blaize Castle, to Louisa, daughter of Richard Hart Davis, esq. M. P.

Rev. A. C. Onslow, second son of the Dean of Worcester, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Sir E. Winnington, bart.

Caroline, Princess Royal of Denmark, to her uncle, the Prince of Hesse.

September.

Sir J. Bland Burgess, bart. to Lady Margaret Fordyce, sister of the Earl of Balcarras.

Honourable J. Thornton Leslie Melville, second son to the Earl of Leven and Melville, to Harriet, daughter of S. Thornton, esq. M. P.

H. P. Boyce, esq. late of the 3rd foot, to the right honourable Lady Amelia Sophia Spencer, daughter of the Duke of Marlborough.

At the residency Bagdad, Sir W. Wiseman, bart. captain of the R. N. to Catharine, daughter of Sir James Mackintosh.—(*June.*)

At Bundlecumb, East Indies, J. Wauchope, esq. judge and first magistrate there, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late R. Macan, esq. of Curriff, county of Armagh.—(*Feb.*)

Charles Chaplin, esq. M. P. to Caroline, daughter of the late honourable H. Fane, of Fulbeck.

At Monymusk, J. Farquharson, esq. of Houghton, to Mary-Anne, daughter of Sir A. Grant, bart.

Lately, the honourable and Rev. Alfred Harris, second son to the Earl

Earl of Malmesbury, to M. Markham, daughter of the dean of York.

W. C. Uvedale, to the daughter of the late Sir W. Johnston, bart. of Caskieben.

F. Layton, esq. R. M. to Jemima, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Plumtree, master of Queen's College, Cambridge.

Sir J. Sinclair, bart. of Murkle and Stevenson, to Anne, daughter of the honourable Vice-Admiral de Courcy.

H. A. Douglas, esq. third son of the late Sir W. Douglas, bart. of Kelhead, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Robert Dalzell, esq. of Glenae.

October.

Wathen Phipps, esq. to Baroness Howe.

The very Rev. Dean of Dro-more, to Frances Katharine, daughter of the late D. Ker, esq. of Portavo.

Honourable C. Butler, brother to the Earl of Ormond and Ossory, to Lady Sarah Butler, daughter of the Earl of Carrick.

Rev. James Croft, to Charlotte, daughter to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Honourable Captain Stewart, R. N. to Miss Hyndman.

Lord Ogilvie, eldest son of the Earl of Airly, to Clementina only child of the late Gavin Drummond, esq.

C. Sawyer, esq. of Heywood Lodge, to Henrietta, sister of Sir G. Bowyer.

Dr. Bent, of Basford, to Frances, daughter of Sir J. E. Heathcote, of Longton.

Rev. J. Mountain, eldest son of the Bishop of Quebec, to Frances,

daughter of the late Rev. W. Brooke.

J. A. Knipe, esq. to Louisa, daughter of Sir W. B. Rush.

S. M. Phillips, esq. to Chare-mile, daughter of Charles Grant, esq. late M. P. for Inverness.

George Morgan, esq. to Lady Hotham, widow of Sir Charles Hotham, bart.

At Paris, Baron Mourin, general of brigade, to the daughter of the late Murtin Murtin, esq. of Lockasog, N. B.

At Gibraltar, Viscount Malpas, eldest son to Earl Cholmondeley, to Caroline, daughter of his excellency Lieutenant-general Campbell, Lieutenant-governor.

Lieutenant-colonel Napier, of the 52nd regiment, to Margaret, daughter of J. Craig, esq.

D. J. Webb, esq. to the honourable Miss Monck, sister of Viscount Monck.

At Dublin, Sir Harcourt Lees, bart. to Sophia, daughter of the late Colonel Lyster, of Grange, county of Roscommon.

T. E. M. Turton, esq. only son of Sir T. Turton, bart. to Louisa, daughter of Major-general Brown.

November.

At Edinburgh, the honourable Adolphus Turnour, to Jessie, daughter of F. Dewar, esq.

Hensleigh Allen, esq. to Gertrude, daughter of Lord Robert Seymour.

J. M. Lloyd, esq. M. P. to Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. Coulston Carr, of Ealing.

Lieutenant-colonel Warre, aide-camp to Sir W. C. Beresford, to Selina Anne, daughter of the late C. T. Maling, esq.

M

N. Robbins,

N. Robbins, esq. eldest son of G. Robbins, esq. of Hymen's town, county of Tipperary, to the daughter of the honourable G. Eyre Massy, of Riversdale.

Honourable Philip Cocks, second son of the late Lord Somers, to Miss Herbert of Pershore.

Sir Richard Hankey, to Mary, daughter of the late Capt. Charles Higgins.

Right honourable George Knox, to Harriet, daughter of the late T. Fortescue, esq.

December.

Captain H. Percy Davison, to Charlotte, daughter of the late General W. Ellis Doyle.

Rev. H. Des Voeux, son of Sir C. Des Voeux, bart. to Frances, daughter and heiress of the late Daniel Dalrymple, esq.

Charles Gibson, esq. to Miss Stanley, sister to Sir T. Stanley, bart.

E. T. Littleton, esq. to Hyacinthe Mary, daughter of Marquis Wellesley.

Lately, at Alverstoke, G. A. Coleman, esq. R. N. to Rossa Maria, youngest daughter of the late honourable Captain Paget Bayley, R. N. niece to the Earl of Uxbridge.

At Kilkenny, Rev. J. Vernon, to Frances, daughter of the Lord Bishop of Ossory.

PROMOTIONS.

January.

Hon. Phillip Woodhouse and Captain Larcom, Commissioners of the Navy.

February.

Major-Gen. Charles Wale, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in Martinique.

Major-Gen. the Hon. Robert Meade, Lieutenant-Governor of the Cape of Good Hope; Lieutenant-Colonel Chas. Napier, Lieutenant-Governor of the Virgin Islands; Lieutenant-Colonel Tho. Davey, Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land.

Viscount Wellington, Earl of Wellington, in the county of Somerset; Lieut.-Gen. Thomas Graham, Lieut.-Gen. Rowland Hill, Major-Gen. Sir Sam. Auchmuty, Knights of the Bath.

Lord Castlereagh, Chief Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Hon. J. Abercromby, Commander-in-Chief and second in Council at Madras.

Robert Hesketh, esq. Consul at the Port of Maranhao, and in the adjoining provinces of Para and Seara.

Earl of Ancram, Lord-Lieut. of the county of Roxburgh.

Lieut. Oxley, R. N. Surveyor-General of Lands N. S. Wales.

John Gleed, esq. Barrister-at-Law and Recorder of Reading, and Solicitor of the Excise in Scotland.

March.

Earl Cholmondeley, Lord Steward of his Majesty's household; Marquis of Hertford, Lord Chamberlain; Marquis of Winchester, Groom of the Stole to his Majesty; J. Simeon, esq. Master in Chancery; Count Munster, and Colonel Herbert Taylor, Commissioners for the protection, care, and management of his Majesty's property during his indisposition.

Adam

Adam Gillies, esq. one of the Lords Justiciary in Scotland.

Vice-Chamberlain, Earl of Yarmouth.

Lords of his Majesty's bed-chamber, Marquis of Headford, Viscount Melbourne, Lord Heathfield, Lord James Murray, and Viscount Petersham.

First Groom and Master of the Robes, Nassau Thomas, esq.

Grooms of the bed-chamber, General Chas. Leigh, General E. Stephens, General T. Slaughter Stanwix, Honourable H. Stanhope, Lieut.-General Sir J. Craddock, Lieut.-General Wm. Keppel, and Colonel Wilson Bradyll.

Clerk, Marshal, and Chief Equerry, Col. Benj. Bloomfield.

Equerries, Major-General Hammond, Lieut.-Col. W. Congreve, Major-General Bayley, Hon. F. Howard, and Colonel Vivian.

Right Hon. H. Wellesley (Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in Spain), Knight of the Bath.

Pages of Honour to his Majesty, Frederick William Turner, Chas. Geo. J. Arbuthnot, Frederick Wm. Culling Smith, J. Arthur Douglas Bloomfield, esqrs.

Right Hon. General Chas. Earl of Harrington, Governor-Captain, Constable, and Lieutenant of Windsor Castle.

Right Hon. Earl of Ormond, Lord of his Majesty's Bed-chamber.

John M'Mahon, esq. Keeper of the Privy Purse and Private Secretary to the Prince Regent.

Right Hon. Hugh Percy summoned to the House of Peers by the title of Baron Percy.

Duke of Buccleugh, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Edinburgh.

Lord Keith, Commander of the Channel Fleet.

Lord Melville, First Lord of the Admiralty.

T. Cook, esq. Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Colonel Seymour, Serjeant at Arms to the House of Commons.

Mr. Anstruther, late Advocate-General at Madras, Recorder of Bombay.

Mr. Toller, of Lincoln's-Inn, Advocate-General at Madras.

Rev. J. Josiah Connybear, M. A. of C. C. Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford.

Rev. T. Gaisford, Greek Professor, University of Oxford.

Viscount Melville; Wm. Domett, esq. Vice-Admiral; Sir Jos. Sydney York, Knt. Rear-Admiral; Hon. Frederick John Robinson, Lord Walpole, Right Hon. Wm. Dundas, and Geo. Johnston Hope, esq. Rear-Admiral, Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral.

Geo. Granville Marquis of Stafford, Francis Marquis of Hertford, William Earl of Lonsdale, Richard Marquis Wellesley, Charles Duke of Richmond, and James Duke of Montrose, Knights of the Garter.

April.

Earl of Buckinghamshire, Earl of Liverpool, Viscount Castlereagh, and the Right Hon. Richard Ryder, his Majesty's three principal Secretaries of State; Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, Chancellor and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer.

Lord Louvaine, Lord Teignmouth, Right Hon. Thos. Wallace, Viscount Lowther, and Right Hon.

John Sullivan, Commissioners for Affairs in India.

Lord Napier, High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Duke of Newcastle, Steward of the Forest of Sherwood and Park of Folewood, county of Notts.

Major Lumley, a Groom of his Majesty's bed-chamber.

Viscount Sidmouth, Lord President of the Privy Council.

Earl Talbot, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Stafford.

Earl Courtown, Captain of the Band of Pensioners.

Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, Equerry to the Prince Regent.

May.

Duke of Beaufort, Constable of the Castle of Briavels, and Warden of the Forest of Dean, county of Gloucester.

Right Rev. Dr. Bowyer Edward Sparke, Bishop of Ely.

Earl of Buckinghamshire, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

P. C. Tupper, esq. Consul in Valencia.

Gilbert Stuart Bruce, esq. Consul at the Canary Islands.

June.

Major-General P. Bopham, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Surinam.

Colonel G. R. Ainslie, Governor and Commander-in-Chief at Dominica.

Rev. J. S. Clarke, F. R. S. Chaplain to the Household and Librarian to the Prince Regent, Historiographer to his Majesty.

Earl of Liverpool, Right Hon. Nich. Vansittart, Snowden Barne,

esq. and the Hon. Berkeley Paget, Commissioners of the Exchequer.

Right Hon. Nich. Vansittart, Chancellor and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer.

Earl Harrowby, Lord President of the Council.

Earl Bathurst and Viscount Sidmouth, two of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

Sir Thomas Tyrwhitt, Knight, one of his Majesty's Gentlemen Ushers and Daily Waiters.

Earl Moira, Knight of the Garter.

Rev. Geo. H. Law, D. D. Bishop of Chester.

Sir Vicary Gibbs, Judge in the Common Pleas.

J. Crispin, esq. Consul at Oporto.

Jos. Jekyll, esq. Attorney-Gen. to the Prince of Wales.

July.

Samuel Shepherd, esq. Solicitor-General to the Prince of Wales.

Right Hon. Chas. Bragge Bathurst, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Sir T. Tyrwhitt, Ranger of the little Park, Windsor.

Chas. Dyson, M. A. Professor of Anglo Saxon Literature at Oxford.

E. R. Roberts, of Barnstaple, Collector of Customs at that Port.

Nicholas Glass, Comptroller: Right Hon. General Viscount Cathcart, K. T. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Emperor of Russia.

August.

Lord Walpole, Secretary of Embassy at St. Petersburg.

Edward Thornton, esq. Envoy Extraordinary

Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Sweden. Geo. Sholto Douglas, esq. Secretary of Legation of that court.

Admirals of the White, Robert Man, esq. and J. Henry esq. to be Admirals of the Red.

Admirals of the Blue, Sir Chas. H Knowles, Bart. Hon. T. Pakenham, Robert Deans, and James Hawkins Whitshed, to be Admirals of the White.

Vice-Admirals of the Red, Edw. Tyrrel Smith, esq. Sir Thomas Graves, K. B. Thos. McNamara Russel, esq. Sir H. Trollope, Knt. and Sir Henry Edwin Stanhope, Bart. Admirals of the Blue.

Vice-Admirals of the White, Sir Isaac Coffin Greenly, Bart. John Aylmer, Samuel Osborn, Richard Boger, Jno. Child Purvis, and Theophilus Jones, esq. to be Vice-Admirals of the Red.

Vice-Admirals of the Blue, John McDougall, Jas. Alms, and Eliab Harvey, esqrs. Sir Edm. Nagle, Knight, John Wells, Richard Grindall, and Geo. Martin, esqrs. Sir Richard John Strachan, bart. K. B. Sir Wm. Sidney Smith, knt. and Thos. Sotheby, esq. to be Vice-Admirals of the White.

Rear-Admirals of the Red, Robert Devereux Fancourt. esq. Sir Edw. Buller, bart. Hon. Robt. Stopford, Mark Robinson, Thos. Revell Shivers, Francis Pickmore, John Stephens Hull, John Dilkes, Wm. Lechmere, and Thos. Foley, esqrs. to be Vice-Admirals of the Blue.

Rear-Admirals of the White, Rowley Bulteel, Wm. Luke, Isaac Geo. Manley, J. Osborn, Edmund Crawley, Chas. Boyles, esqrs. Sir T. Williams, knt. Thos. Hamilton, esq. Sir T. B. Thompson, bart.

John Laugharne, Wm. Hargood, Geo. Gregory, John Ferrier, Rich. Incedon Bury, Robt. Moorsom, esqrs. to be Rear-Admirals of the Red.

Rear-Admirals of the Blue, Wm. Bligh, Lawrence Wm. Halstead, Edw. Oliver Osborn, esqrs. Sir Harry B. Neale, bart. Sir Joseph S. York, knt. Hon. Arthur K. Legge, Francis Faverham, esq. Earl of Galloway, Thos. F. Freemantle, esq. Sir Francis Laforey, bart. Phil Chas. Durham, Isaac Israel Pellew, Alex. Fraser, Benj. Hallowell, Geo. Johnston Hope, esqrs. Lord Amelius Beauclerk, Wm. Taylor, Jas. Nicholl Morris, Geo. Burdon, Wm. Brown, Thos. Byam Martin, esqrs. to be Rear-Admirals of the White.

Post-Captains Wm. Johnston Hope, esq. Lord Henry Pawlett, Chas. W. Paterson, Geo. Cockburn, Thomas Surridge, Samuel Hood Linsee, James Carpenter, Robert Barton, Graham Moore, Matt. H. Scott, Joseph Hanwell, Hen. W. Bayntun, esqrs. Hon. Francis F. Gardner, Sir Richard King, bart. Edw. Griffith, Edw. James Foot, Richard Lee, Wm. Pierrepont, Peter Halkett, Wm. Bedford, esqrs. to be Rear-Admirals of the Blue.

Captains Pulteney Malcolm, C. V. Penrose, James Bissett, and Hon. Charles Elphinstone Fleming, to be Colonels of Marines.

Earl Wellington, K. B. Marquis Wellington.

Right Hon. Frederick John Robinson, Right Hon. Wm. Fitzgerald, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Ireland.

Right Hon. Robert Peel, Privy Counsellor.

Viscount Jocelyn, Vice-Chamberlain of the Household.

Lord

Lord Charles Bentinck, Treasurer of ditto.

Lord George Beresford, Comptroller of ditto.

General Samuel Hulse, Master of ditto.

Major-Gen. Hon. Chas. Stewart, Hon. Augustus Cavendish Bradshaw, and Major-General T. H. Turner, Grooms of the bed-chamber.

Earl of Yarmouth, Lord Warden of the Stannaries.

Earl of Northampton, Marquis Northampton.

Earl Camden, Marquis Camden.

Lord Mulgrave, Earl Mulgrave.

Lord Harewood, Earl Harewood.

Lieut-General Sir S. Cotton, bart. extra K. B.

September.

Earl of Buckinghamshire, Viscount Castlereagh, Earl Bathurst, Viscount Sidmouth, Earl of Liverpool, Right Hon. N. Vansittart, Baron Teignmouth, Viscount Lowther, Right Hon. J. Sullivan, and Lord Apsley, Commissioners for India affairs.

His Serene Highness William Frederick Henry, hereditary Prince of Orange, Aid-de-Camp to the Regent.

Sir Thos. Plomer, knt. Attorney-General.

William Garrow, esq. Solicitor-General.

R. Peel, esq. M.P. Chief Secretary of Ireland.

T. P. Courtenay, esq. Secretary to the Commissioners for Affairs of India.

Sir Ralph Woodford, bart. Governor of Trinidad.

Richard Allen, esq. Consul for the North of Spain.

C. Stuart, esq. extra K. B.

Earl of Clancarty, and in absence, Right Hon. F. J. Robinson, President of the Committee of Control for Trade and Commerce.

Viscount Melville, Admiral W. Domett, Sir J. S. Yorke, Right Hon. W. Dundas, Rear-Admiral G. Johnston Hope, Sir G. Warrender, and S. Osborn, esq. Commissioners of the Admiralty.

October.

Earl of Liverpool, Right Hon. N. Vansittart, Right Hon. W. Fitzgerald, Hon. Berkeley Paget, Right Hon. Frederick John Robinson, and James Brogden, esqrs. Commissioners of the Exchequer.

Daniel Bayley, esq. Consul-Gen. in Russia.

Major-General Isaac Brock, extra K. B.

Snowdon Barne, esq. Commissioner of Customs.

Right Hon. F. Robinson, Treasurer of the Navy.

Earl of Clancarty, Master of the Mint.

Rev. John Cole, D. D. Vice-Chancellor of Oxford.

Sir Rupert George, bart. James Bowen, esq. Hon. J. Douglas, J. Harness, M. D. Hon. Courtenay Boyle, and Wm. Boothby, esq. Commissioners for Transport Service, &c.

November.

The following to be Baronets—
Lieut. - General Wm. Congreve,
Lieut.-General Wm. Payne, Vice-Admiral Albemarle Bertie, Sir H. Russel, knt. Chief Justice of Bengal, Major-Gen. Sir Ewen Baillie, Major-Gen. Barry Close, Right Hon. Stephen C. Hunter, Lord Mayor,

Mayor, Frederick J. Falkiner, esq.
 Benjamin Hobhouse. esq. Stewart
 Bruce, esq. John Owen, Jahleel
 Brenton, Post-Captain R. N. Rev.
 H. Bate Dudley, LL. D. Gilbert
 Blanc, M. D. Physician in Ordinary
 to the Regent, John Lister Kaye,
 esq. Sir C. Ormsbie, knt. Eneas
 Mackintosh, esq. G. W. Leeds,
 esq. W. Knighton, M. D. Physician
 in Ordinary to the Prince Regent,
 G. Jackson, esq. Everard Home,
 Serjeant Surgeon to his Majesty,
 Edw. Kennedy, Richard Nagle,
 James Caleb Anderson, Jas Gal-
 braith, esqrs. Sir Richard Fletcher,
 knt. Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief
 Engineer with the army in Spain
 and Portugal.

Pinckstan James, M. D. one of
 the Physicians extraordinary to the
 Prince Regent.

Rev. J. Davie, D. D. Vice-
 Chancellor of Cambridge.

December.

Major-Gen. Roger Hale Sheaffe,
 a Baronet.

Sir J. Shaw, a Baronet.

Earl Moira, Governor-General
 of India.

Lieut.-General Sir Geo. Nugent,
 Commander-in-Chief of the East
 India Company's forces on the
 Bengal establishment.

Lieut.-Gen. Hon. J. Abercromby,
 Governor and Commander-in-Chief
 at Fort St. George.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mark Wilks,
 Governor of St. Helena.

C. D. Smith, esq. Governor of
 Prince Edward's Island.

DEATHS in the Year 1812.

January.

2. *Henry Shelley*, esq. M. P. for Lewes.

W. Wyatt Dimond, esq. joint proprietor with Mr. Palmer of the theatres royal at Bath and Bristol. He was a pupil and friend of Garrick, and first appeared at Drury-lane in 1772, in the character of Romeo.

3. *Bicknell Coney*, esq. a director of the Bank of England, and long an eminent merchant in London.

5. Admiral *Sir Richard Hughes*, Baronet.

11. *Henry Scott*, Duke of Buccleugh and Queensberry, and Earl of Doncaster in England, Knight of the Garter, Lord Lieutenant of the counties of Edinburgh and Roxburgh, and Governor of the Royal Bank of Scotland, aged 66. His grace married Elizabeth, only daughter of the late Duke of Montagu, by whom he left two sons and four daughters. He possessed a princely fortune, of which a considerable share was devoted to acts of public and private liberality. He was extremely affable in his manners, easy of access, humane and benevolent. He possessed great political influence.

12. General *Sir James Henry Craig*, K. B. late Governor-in-Chief of British North America.

Sir Thomas Coxhead, formerly M. P. for Bramber, aged 77.

14. *Edward Hasted*, esq. F. R. S. and S. A. aged 80, the historian of the county of Kent. In the

composition of this work he employed 40 years, during which he spared no pains or expense to bring it to maturity; at the same time he acted with zeal and vigour as a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant of the county. Mr. Hasted was the son of Edw. Hasted, of Hawley, in Kent, esq. and barrister-at-law, descended from the noble family of Clifford. His mother was of the ancient family of the Dingleys in the Isle of Wight. He was married, and left four sons and two daughters. Having met with adverse fortune in his latter years, he quitted Kent, and for some time lived in obscurity. A few years ago he was presented by the Earl of Radnor to the mastership of Lady Hungerford's hospital at Corsham, Wiltshire, a comfortable asylum, to which he removed, and where he died. Having also obtained a decree in chancery for the recovery of his estates in Kent, of which he had been defrauded, he was restored to a state of independent competency.

15. *Theophilus Jones*, esq. the historian of Brecknockshire, a gentleman much beloved for his frank, benevolent, and social disposition.

Henry Penton, esq. aged 75, a native of Winchester, which city he represented in several successive parliaments.

Sir Henry Parker, Bart. of Mel-ford-hall, Suffolk.

Colonel *Wm. Cavendish*, M. P. for

for Derby, aged 28. He was the eldest son of Lord George Henry Cavendish, and cousin to the Duke of Devonshire. The cause of his death was an overturn from his curricule in Holker-park, Lancashire, as he was returning from a shooting excursion: he pitched on his head, and never spoke more. He married the eldest daughter of Lord Lismore, by whom he has left three or four children.

16. Mrs. *Willes*, aged 71, niece to Dr. Wilcocks, Bp. of Rochester.

18. Mrs *Lindsey*, aged 72, relict of the late Rev. Theophilus Lindsey: a lady distinguished for strong sense, firmness, and cultivation of mind, and the worthy partner in all fortunes of her excellent husband.

19. At the storming of Ciudad Rodrigo, Major-Gen. *M'Kinnon*. He was descended from an ancient family in Scotland, and entered at an early age in the Coldstream regiment of guards. He first served under the Duke of York in Holland. At the rebellion in Ireland he was brigade major to General Sir G. Nugent, and distinguished himself equally by his courage and humanity. He was in the expedition in Egypt; in Germany with Lord Cathcart; and at the taking of Copenhagen. In 1808, he embarked for the Peninsula, and fought with great reputation under Lord Wellington. He was married to the youngest daughter of the late Sir J. Colt, bart.

20. Mrs. *Jebb*, widow of the late John Jebb, M. D. aged 77. This lady was the daughter of the Rev. Jas. Torkington, and of lady Dorothy Sherard, daughter of the Earl of Harborough. She was married, in 1764, to Dr. Jebb,

then resident in Cambridge, and engaged in various controversies and reforming plans which have rendered his name celebrated. Mrs. Jebb entered with great spirit and intelligence into all her husband's views, and even took up the pen in their support. She was particularly the assailant of Dr. Powell, master of St. John's college, the chief academical adversary of Dr. Jebb; and it was on occasion of a pamphlet against him, under the signature of Priscilla, that Dr. Paley said, "The Lord had sold Sisera into the hands of a woman." When Dr. Jebb removed to London, and adopted the medical profession, his wife was not in the least behind him in the patriotic zeal by which he was animated. Parliamentary reform, and all those principles of government which characterise the warm friends of liberty, were ever objects the nearest her heart, nor did age and infirmities make any abatement of her political ardour. Yet with this earnestness of disposition she united all the amiable softness of the female character, and was not less estimable for the qualities of the heart than for those of the understanding. Her frame was so slight and feeble, whilst her manner was so animated, that she seemed rather soul than body; and it was a wonder that the frail tenement of clay could so long harbour a mind of such activity.

21. At Bath, in his 80th year, *Edward Fisher*, esq. late of Henbury, Gloucestershire, whose time, and a considerable part of his fortune, from an early period, were spent in acts of benevolence.

24. In consequence of wounds received at the storming of Ciudad Rodrigo,

Rodrigo, Major-General *Robert Craufurd*. He had long served under the most distinguished commanders of our army, all of whom had a high opinion of his military talents. In private life his character was equally amiable and estimable. He has left a widow and four children to lament his loss.

Isabella Susanna Countess of Beverley, second daughter of Peter Burrell, esq. of Beckenham, in Kent. Her ladyship was married in 1775 to Lord Algernon Percy, second son of the late Duke of Northumberland, afterwards Lord Lovaine, and Earl of Beverley. She has left a numerous issue.

29. The Rev. *Sir John Knightley*, bart. of Fawsley Park, Northamptonshire.

Urania Countess Dowager of Portsmouth.

William Brodie, esq. one of the magistrates of Marlborough-street office.

At the Admiralty, the *Lady of Sir Joseph Sydney Yorke*, bart.

30. *Sir Jonathan Lovett*, bart. of Liscombe-house, Bucks.

31. *The Right Hon. Lady Charles Spencer*, aged 68, sister to the late, and aunt to the present, Duke of St. Albans.

Lately, the Rev. *Cæsar Morgan*, D. D. Prebendary of Ely.

Thomas Vyvyan, esq. Trewan, Cornwall, aged 77.

The Hon. Mrs. Pennant, daughter of the Viscount Harwarden.

Lieut.-Colonel *Henry Lennon*, of the Bengal establishment.

February.

7. *Caroline Dowager Lady Scarsdale*, daughter of Charles Earl of Portmore.

11. *Lady Catharine Stewart*, wife of General Stewart.

12. Mr. *Andrew Cherry*, manager of the theatres at Monmouth and Swansea, and author of several dramatic pieces of the minor class.

13. Major-Gen. *Charles William Este*, aged 74.

15. *Lord Henry Lennox*, third son of the Duke of Richmond, in his 15th year. He was midshipman on board the *Blake*, in the harbour of Port Mahon, when going aloft to assist in furling the sails, he fell overboard, and was unfortunately drowned, though one of his comrades swam to save him.

17. *Sir William Maxwell*, bart. of Monreith, Scotland.

18. Colonel *Matthew Smith*, Major of the Tower, aged 73.

19. *The Hon. Mary Talbot*, mother of the Earl of Shrewsbury, and daughter of Sir George Mostyn, Flintshire.

23. *Frederick Cavendish*, esq. son of Lord Charles Cavendish, and brother of the late eminent philosopher, Henry Cavendish, about the age of 80. He had long resided at Market-street, Bedfordshire, where he made himself remarkable by various eccentricities, but also displayed much benevolence and goodness of heart. He had received in his youth a serious injury in the head from a fall into an area out of an upper window, which rendered him unfit for public life, and was doubtless the cause of some of his peculiarities. He lived a bachelor; and on his death his landed property came to the Duke of Devonshire, and his personal estate to his maternal cousins, the Earls of Ashburnham and Bridgewater, and the Hon. F. Egerton.

The Hon Lady Stanhope, eldest sister of the late Lord Delaval. She was twice married, first to Sir William Stanhope, brother to the celebrated Earl of Chesterfield; and secondly, to C. Morrice, esq. noted for his lyrical compositions. She died at the house of Sir J. Astley, bart. in Norfolk, whom she made her heir.

At Stoke, near Plymouth, *Sir Charles Cotton*, commander of the Channel fleet. He was of the family of Cotton of Cambridge-shire; and entering into the navy, was made post-captain in 1779. He commanded the *Majestic* under Lord Howe on the 1st of June 1794; and the *Mars* in the following year during the masterly retreat of Admiral Cornwallis before the whole French fleet. He obtained a flag in 1797, and served in the Channel fleet under Lord St. Vincent, gaining the esteem of that great commander by his conduct. In 1807, he commanded the expedition sent to Portugal, when he greatly contributed to animate the Portuguese to the defence of their country. Sir Charles long opposed the disgraceful convention of Cintra, and pointed out means by which the enemy's threat of pillaging Lisbon might be rendered abortive. He was advanced to the rank of admiral in 1808, and after commanding in chief in the Mediterranean, returned to take the command of the Channel fleet. He bore the character of an excellent naval officer, and a worthy man, zealously attached to his king and country.

28 *John Till. Allingham*, esq. author of various approved dramatic compositions.

Lately *Mr. Francis Jukes*, aged 66, the first who brought to perfection the art of engraving in aqua-tinta. He was long a publisher of prints in Howland-street.

Mary widow of the late *Henry Lord Baron Annaly*, of Tenelic, county of Longford, aged 74.

March.

1. *Maxwell Garthshore*, M. D. F. R. S. aged 80, long a practitioner of eminence in London, distinguished for his humanity to the poor, and his zeal for the interests of science.

Paul Orchard, esq. of Hartland Abbey, Devon, representative in four parliaments for Callington.

4. *Frances*, wife of the *Hon. Washington Shirley*, and first cousin to Viscount Dudley and Ward.

8. *Sir W. Langham*, bart. of Cottesbrook-house, Northamptonshire.

9. In his 80th year, the Rev. *Andrew Burnaby*, D.D. Archdeacon of Leicester, and during 43 years Vicar of Greenwich. He was the author of a considerable number of publications, of which, his "*Travels in North America*," and "*Journal of a Tour to Corsica*," were the fruit of travels in the early part of life; the rest were chiefly theological, consisting of sermons, general and occasional, charges, &c. Dr. Burnaby was regarded as an able and elegant writer, and a strenuous defender of the established church. He possessed great urbanity of manners, and was highly esteemed for his public and private virtues.

10. *P. J. de Louthembourg*, esq. an eminent painter, especially in the

the walk of landscape, and one of the oldest members of the Royal Academy.

12. *Miss Lowth*, only surviving daughter of the late Bishop Lowth.

13. *The Earl of Uxbridge*, Lord Lieutenant of the counties of Anglesey and Stafford, &c. &c. aged 68. He left a numerous family, and is succeeded by his eldest son Henry William Lord Paget.

15. *The Hon. Lieut.-Gen. Vere Poulett*, of Addington House, Bucks.

18. *John Horne Tooke*, esq. aged 76, a distinguished character both in the political and the literary world. Mr. Horne, as he was first named, was the son of a poulterer in Westminster, and was brought up for the clerical profession. He received his school education both at Eton and Westminster, and about his 18th year was entered, of St. John's college, Cambridge. He took orders, and obtained the chapelry of New Brentford, the only preferment he ever possessed. The clerical character, indeed, was that in which he had no ambition to excel; and after a tour to the continent, he plunged into the politics of the day, and closely connected himself with Mr. Wilkes, whom he assisted in fighting his battles with ministerial power. It was not long, however, before a rupture took place between them, in which Mr. Horne, at least, did not lose ground in the estimation of the public. When that extraordinary political phenomenon, Junius, made his appearance, among many other objects of his virulent attacks, Mr. Horne came in for a share; but the spirited manner in which he repelled and returned the hostility left that formidable masked cham-

pion little cause of triumph. True to his political principles, when the contest broke out with our (then) fellow-subjects of America, he became a warm advocate for their cause; and after the battle of Lexington, having publicly denominated the bloodshed of the day, a "base murder by the King's troops," he was prosecuted by the attorney-general, and was sentenced to imprisonment in the King's-bench.

He had now resigned his clerical function, and attempted to prepare for the bar, for which he was excellently qualified, but his *indebted character*, excluded him from the inns of court. His political influence with the popular party was, however, considerable, and he exerted it to render odious that coalition between the members of the North ministry, and the opposition, which eventually proved so prejudicial to the latter. He twice became a candidate for Westminster, Mr. Fox being each time one of his opponents, and he was twice defeated, but not without having taken occasion to read to the House itself a very home lesson on the corruptions openly practised at elections. Mr. Tooke (he had now assumed that name in compliance with the request of Mr. Tooke, of Purley, in Surrey), was not a man who could view the great event of the French revolution without an application of its principles to those parts of our own constitution, which, in the opinion of many wise men and good citizens, stood in need of essential reforms. He became an active member of the leading societies instituted for those purposes; and when government thought proper

proper to take judicial notice of them, his influence and abilities of course gave him the honour of being among the persons selected for legal victims. On October 25, 1794, a memorable day! he, with several others, was arraigned for high treason. After the acquittal of Mr. Hardy, who was first tried, little danger probably attended the rest; Mr. Tooke, however, had the opportunity of distinguishing himself by his characteristic acuteness, presence of mind, and intrepidity, on his trial; and some of the witnesses appeared much less at their ease when examined by him, than he was himself whilst his fate was under determination. His political consequence suffered no diminution from the ordeal he had undergone; on the contrary, it more attached his friends to him, as an innocent and injured man; and in 1801, Lord Camelford was instrumental in procuring him a seat in parliament, as representative of the noted borough of Old Sarum. The figure he made in the House of Commons probably disappointed public expectation; his appearance in that assembly, however, was sufficiently displeasing to certain persons, to excite an attempt for his removal, on the plea of ineligibility, as being one in holy orders. The point was settled by an express act of parliament; and from that time Mr. Tooke ceased to be a political character, at least publicly, though his counsels are commonly supposed to have considerably swayed the conduct of a popular baronet, one of his most intimate and attached friends.

There was another character in which Mr. Tooke, during the

later years of life, appeared more conspicuously,—that of a philologist. At the time of his confinement in the King's-bench, he had written a pamphlet, in the form of a letter, to Mr. Dunning, concerning the English particle, the subject of which was suggested by something which occurred relative to the information against him. He further pursued his idea in "The Diversions of Purley," published in 1786. This was at length enlarged to two quarto volumes, forming a theory of grammar, which, from its novelty and ingenuity, and the depth and acuteness of its researches, obtained the general concurrence of the learned, and placed the author among the first philosophical critics on language. Mr. Tooke was reduced to a state of great corporeal debility for a considerable time before his death, but without losing his powers of mind, or the cheerfulness and serenity of his temper. He was indeed happy to the last in the habit of viewing every thing on the bright side; and although few men had suffered more from bodily pain, and undergone more enmity and obloquy, he always spoke of life as a source of enjoyment. He had caused a vault to be made in his garden at Wimbledon, in which it was his purpose to be interred, and had composed an inscription for his tomb; but his executors thought proper to alter this disposition, and he was buried in the family vault at Ealing, with a respectable attendance of friends.

24. *Lady Williams*, relict of Sir Edward Williams; of Langoed Castle, Wales.

26. *Lady Julia Percy*, second daughter

daughter of the Duke of Northumberland, aged 27.

Lady Eleanor Cavendish, wife of the Hon. Frederick Cavendish, and sister to the Earl of Arran.

April.

1. *Sir Frederick Evelyn*, Bart. aged 68, of Wotton, Surrey.

David Orme, M. D. senior licentiate of the London College of Physicians, aged 84.

2. *Sir John Callender*, Bart. of Scotland.

R. Wyatt, Esq. aged 85, formerly governor of Fort Marlborough, in Sumatra.

Mrs. Burke, relict of the celebrated Edmund Burke, aged 76.

4. *Bacon Frank*, Esq. many years an active magistrate for the West-Riding of Yorkshire.

6. *Thomas Fyde*, Esq. aged 71, late a representative for Boston, in Lincolnshire.

David, Earl of Airly, at Kinnalty House, in the county of Forfar.

7. At Madeira, aged 54, *Robert Willan* M. D. late an eminent medical practitioner in London. He was distinguished by sagacity, and accuracy of observation; and was particularly celebrated for his knowledge of cutaneous diseases, of which he gave exact descriptions, illustrated by plates, in several publications. He was a sound classical scholar, and a man of great humanity and strict virtue.

8. *John, Earl of Ashburnham*, aged 88. He is succeeded by his son George, Viscount St. Asaph.

9. *Lieut.-Gen. James Nethersett*, aged 78. He was one of the last surviving officers who fought under General Wolfe.

11. *Jane, Duchess of Gordon*,

aged 64. Her Grace was the eldest daughter of Sir W. Maxwell, Bart. of Monreith, and was married to the Duke of Gordon in 1767, by whom she had two sons and five daughters, all at present living. She had the satisfaction of seeing the success of her cares in educating and introducing her daughters, by the splendid settlement of three of them as duchesses, and one as a marchioness.

12. *Sir W. Plomer*, Knight, Alderman of Coleman-street ward.

13. *Mr. Abraham Pether*, of Southampton, aged 56, a distinguished artist, particularly in moonlight landscapes.

17. In his 78th year, *Francis Annesley*, Esq. LL.D. F.A.S. master of Downing-College, Cambridge, and hereditary trustee of the British Museum. Mr. Annesley had been twice a representative of the Borough of Reading. He was a person of exemplary benevolence, and was universally beloved and respected. He possessed a valuable collection of editions of the classics, and of etchings by the best masters.

20. *Edward Forster*, Esq. Walthamstow, aged 83, governor of the Royal Exchange Assurance Office, and late governor of the Russia company. He passed thro' life in general esteem for the discharge of every duty, public and private; and gave proofs of respectable literary talents by writings both in prose and verse.

The Dowager Lady Onslow, relict of Richard Lord Onslow, aged 94.

Lora, Viscountess Downe, relict of John, 4th Viscount Downe, aged 72. She was the only daughter and heiress of William Burton,

Burton, Esq. of Luffenham, Rutlandshire.

Alicia, Countess of Errol.

27. *Rev. Samuel Glass, D. D. F. R. S. Rector of Wanstead, Essex, prebendary of Wells and St. Paul's, and Chaplain in ordinary to his Majesty.*

Lately, Vice-Admiral Lumsdaine.

Lady Burdett, aged 77.

John Richardson, Esq. clerk of the peace, and receiver-general for Cumberland.

Rev. Robert Lucas, D. D. rector of Ripple, in Worcestershire, author of a volume of poems, and another of sermons.

Lady Mansel, relict of Sir W. Mansel, of Iscoed, aged 65.

Lady Kyffin, relict of Sir Thomas Kyffin, of Maynam, in the county of Caernarvon.

Lady Catherine Charteris, daughter of the late Earl of Wemyss.

Gustavus Hume, Esq. an eminent surgeon at Dublin, aged 85.

The Right Rev. James Lanigan, Catholic Bishop of Ossory.

Lady Blunden, widow of the late Sir John Blunden, Bart.

Sir C. Burton, Bart. of Polarton, in the county of Carlow.

May.

9. *James Nixon, Esq. A. R. A. an eminent miniature painter, aged 71.*

John Clerk, of Eldin, Esq. F. R. S. author of a valuable work on Naval tactics, which is reckoned to contain the first idea of the manœuvre of breaking an enemy's line.

11. *The Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, first Lord of the Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, shot by an Assassin (See History*

and Chronicle). He was born in 1762, and was the second son of John, late Earl of Egmont, by a daughter of the Earl of Northampton. Being brought up to the law, he obtained a reputation at the bar, which in 1801 procured him the post of solicitor-general, and in the following year that of attorney-general. He was a strenuous supporter of Mr. Pitt's ministry, and a warm opposer of that which succeeded it. On the formation of a new administration, he took a share in it, and gradually rose to the station of first minister of this country. Of his political measures and principles, as well as his talents, different opinions were of course entertained by the different parties: to his private character for benevolence, integrity, and domestic virtue, all parties have borne testimony. He married the daughter of the late Sir Thomas Spencer Wilson, Bart. by whom he left a numerous issue.

12. *Charles Sturt, Esq. of Brownsea-Castle, Dorsetshire, formerly member for Bridport, distinguished for his philanthropy.*

Sir William Henry Langham, Bart. aged 16.

13. *The Right Rev. Thomas Dampier, Bishop of Ely.*

14. *Sir William Elliott, Bart. of Stobbs, in the county of Roxburgh.*

16. *Sir Frank Standish, Bart. of Lancashire.*

18. *Sir Edward Littleton, Bart. of Teddesley park, Staffordshire, in his 86th year. He represented the county of Stafford in four parliaments, and was highly respected for his virtues and endowments.*

20. *Mary*

20. *Mary Countess Dowager of Macclesfield*, aged 86. She was the eldest daughter of Sir William Heathcote, Bart.

23. *The Rev. Louis Dutens*, rector of Elsdon, Northumberland, and historiographer to his Majesty, aged 83. Mr. Dutens was born in France of a respectable Protestant family. In his memoirs he has given an account of the incidents of his youth, much in the style of a novel, from which it appears that he early displayed the quick parts and sentimental susceptibility common among his countrymen. He came over to England, and for some time acted as a private tutor: but in 1758 he obtained the appointment of chaplain and secretary to the Hon. Stuart Mackenzie, envoy-extraordinary to the court of Turin. He was thus initiated into public life, and was instrumental in bringing about the peace of Paris, for his services in which he obtained a pension. He afterwards returned as *chargé d'affaires* to Turin, where he passed two years, and published an edition of Leibnitz, and composed a work in French, in which he claimed for the ancients most of the discoveries in science attributed to the moderns. He then became attached to the family of the Duke of Northumberland, and made a long tour with Lord Algernon Percy. He had previously received from the Duke a presentation to the rich living of Elsdon. He afterwards spent many years partly abroad, partly in England, and much in the company of the great; and having obtained a considerable legacy from Mr. Mackenzie, he passed the latter part of his life in

literary retirement and social intercourse. He was the author of some other works in the French language, the last of which was a learned inquiry into the use of vaults among the ancients.

25. *Edmond Malone*, Esq. an associate of Johnson, Burke, Reynolds, and other distinguished persons their contemporaries; and well known as an editor and commentator of Shakspeare, and by various other literary labours. He was descended from an ancient family in Ireland, and was the second son of Edmund Malone, one of the judges of the court, of Common Pleas. He was brother to Lord Sunderline.

26. *Anne Lady Fortescue*, mother of the present Earl of that title, aged 82.

27. *Lieut.-Col. Cha. C. Morgan*.

29. *Sir J. Macartney*, Bart.

Lately, *Hon. G. Melville Leslie*, brother to the Earl of Leven:

Right Rev. Dr. John Douglas, Rom. Catholic vicar-apostolic of the London district, and Bishop of Centuria in partibus, aged 69.

George Hart, Esq. Rear-admiral of the red.

The Hon. Mrs. Orde, wife of the Rev. Mr. Orde, and daughter of the late Lord Dorchester.

Mr. *Vincent Shepherd*, of Alnwick, architect, celebrated for his taste and skill in copying the Gothic style of building, aged 62.

Lady Frances Anne Tenison, wife of T. Tenison, Esq. and daughter of Edward Earl of Kingston.

Dowager Lady Foulis.

Lately, *The Princess Charlotte Frederica*, of Anholt Koethen.

The Landgrave Charles Emanuel of Hesse Rheinfelds.

Prince

Prince Joseph of Lorraine.

M. Sonini, the celebrated French traveller.

Bröckmann, a celebrated actor in Vienna, on whose death the theatre was closed for ten nights.

June.

2. *Lady Glynne*, relict of Sir Stephen Glynne, Bart.

At Paris, *Vice-Admiral de Winter*, long commander of the Dutch fleet, and distinguished for bravery and humanity.

9. *Sir F. Molyneux*, Bart. aged 75. He had held for upwards of 46 years the office of gentleman-usher of the Black Rod to the House of Lords.

11. *Rev. Dr. Moodie*, a minister of Edinburgh, and Hebrew professor in the University.

12. *The Rev. Philip Parsons*, M. A. Rector of Eastwell and Snave, and minister of Wye, in Kent, aged 83. He was exemplary in the discharge of his clerical duty, as well as of that of master of the school at Wye, where many of the first gentlemen of the county were educated under him. He was the author of several works in verse and prose, among which were, a paper in *The World*, on advertising for curates; *New-market*, or an Essay on the Turf; *Dialogues of the Dead with the Living*; and *Monuments in Churches in the Eastern Parts of Kent*.

14. *Mr. George M'Allister*, professor of the art of painting and staining of glass at Dublin, in which he had arrived at great excellence, when he was cut off at the early age of 26.

22. *Richard Kirwan*, Esq. F.R.S. President of the Royal Irish

Academy, and of the Dublin Library Society, member of the most considerable literary societies in Europe, and universally known among the votaries of science by his valuable writings in chemistry, mineralogy, and other branches of knowledge.

25. *The Dowager Lady Harrington*, relict of Sir J. Harrington, Bart.

Mr. Harrison, a celebrated vocal performer, for many years the leading tenor singer in the kingdom, distinguished for sweetness, taste, and expression.

26. *Charles Stedman*, Esq. of the Stamp-office, author of a history of the American war.

At Clifton, of a decline, *Philip Mallet*, Esq. Barrister at law. This gentleman possessed in an extraordinary degree the affection and esteem of his friends, on account of the noble independence of his spirit, his frankness, strict honour, virtue, and philanthropy. His political principles were those of the purest advocates for reform, and he maintained them with great energy on various public occasions; nor can it be doubted that if his health had permitted, he would have become a distinguished speaker. He was singularly studious, and greatly attached to the philosophy of the human mind, of which he gave proof by his *Abridgment of Locke on the Human Understanding*; and his editions of *Bacon on the Advancement of Human Learning*; and *Hobbes on Human Nature*, and on *Liberty and Necessity*, with an elaborate life of the author prefixed, which he just lived to finish. These publications, valuable in themselves, give a foretaste of what might have been expected

pected from him, had he enjoyed a longer term of existence.

27. *Joseph Woods*, esq. aged 74, a member of the Society of Friends; a man of retired habits, but of cultivated understanding, strict integrity, and kind disposition. He was from the first a member of the society for the abolition of the slave trade, whose cause he effectually served by his clear and eloquent writings.

30. *Lieutenant-general Baron de Hompesch*.

John Mackenzie, esq. of Glasgow, aged 70, a gentleman distinguished by his ardour in promoting all the best interests of mankind. He was an eminent agriculturist, an enlightened patriot, and a true sage.

Lately, *Lady William Seymour*, widow of Lord William Seymour.

Lord Massey, Hermitage, Lime-
rick.

Sir Joseph Peacocke, Bart. Barn-
tick, county of Clare, aged 78.

At Rio Janeiro, the *Marquis of Pombal*, son of the celebrated prime-minister of that name.

July.

9. *James Mingay*, esq. senior king's counsel, a bencher of the Inner Temple, and recorder of Aldborough, long eminent at the bar. He was member for Thetford in the short-lived parliament of 1806.

10. The *honourable J. Bligh Jocelyn*, second son of the Earl of Roden, and a lieutenant in the navy.

At Berlin, *Charles Lewis Wilde-
now*, M. D. professor of botany, and member of the Academy of Sciences, in that city, author of

the *Flora Berolinensis*, and other esteemed botanical works.

11. *David Rattray*, M. D. aged 75, more than fifty years a physician at Coventry, in high reputation, and extensive practice.

14. *Sir T. Fletcher*, Bart. of Betley-court, aged 66.

16. *Rev. William Murray*, D.D. aged 75, for thirty-six years master of the free-school of Dungan-
non.

20. *Lady de Crespigny*, Rich-
mond-house, Surrey.

21. *Joseph Denman*, M. D. aged 82, late physician at Bakewell, Derbyshire, and an active magi-
strate in that county: author of an *Essay on the Buxton Waters*.

22. At the battle of Salamanca, *Major-general Le Marchant*, a native of Guernsey. He served his first campaign under the Duke of York on the Continent, where, having observed the superior use of the cavalry sword by the Hunga-
rian hussars, he was principally instrumental in introducing the same system into the British army. He had afterwards a great share in the establishment of the Royal Mi-
litary College, of which he was ap-
pointed lieutenant-governor. He was sent to Portugal in 1811, with the command of a brigade of caval-
ry, where he distinguished himself as an active and enterprising officer, and obtained the public approba-
tion of Lord Wellington.

23. *John Davies*, esq. aged 94, captain in the royals. He had served at Dettingen and Fontenoy, and was aid-de-camp to General Hawley.

24. *Francis Hardy*, esq. aged 61. He had been eighteen years representative for Mullingar in the
Irish

Irish parliament, and always voted on the purest patriotic principles. He was lately a benefactor to the literary world, by his very interesting *Memoirs of Lord Charlemont*, who was his intimate friend.

25. At Venice *Vicc-admiral Villaret Joyeuse*, grand-cordon of the legion of honour, and governor of that city.

30. *Sir J. Parnell*, bart.

Lately, *Christian Gottlieb Heyne*, aged 83, the celebrated classical professor at Gottingen, and one of the most eminent critics and scholars in Europe.

Lady Lucinda Ramsay, daughter of the late Earl of Dalhousie.

August.

8. At Dublin, in his 92nd year, *General Charles Vallancey*, LL. D. F. R. S. director of the corps of royal engineers in Ireland, and one of the vice-presidents of the Dublin society: He was the author of numerous works, of which the earliest related to the art of fortification; but the greater part to the history and antiquities of Ireland, to the study of which he was enthusiastically attached. Of these are, *A Grammar of the Ibero-Celtic, or Irish Language*; an *Essay on the Antiquity of that Language*; a *Vindication of the Ancient History of Ireland*; and *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis*, in several numbers.

9. *Sir J. Shaw Stewart*, bart. of Ardgowan, Scotland, aged 74.

10. The hon. *Frances Elizabeth Domville*, wife of Compton Domville, esq. and daughter of the Bishop of Kildare.

22. *Major-general Kirkpatrick*, on the Bengal establishment, a gentle-

man particularly conversant with the history, antiquities, religions, and languages of the East. Among other situations of trust in the East India company's service, he was ambassador and resident with the Nizam at Hydrabad, and at the courts of Madajee Scindiah, and Shah Allum, the great Mogul. He published, besides other works, a translation of the biography of the Persian poets, by Dowlat Shah; an account of the kingdom of Napol, whither he had accompanied the deposed rajah in order to restore him; and a selection of Tip-poo Sultan's letters. He had made a most valuable collection of Persian and other Oriental MSS. which he deposited at the library of the India-house, where they are liberally left open to the public. The general was universally esteemed, as well for his private virtues, as his talents in public offices.

Sir John Eden, bart. of Windlestone, Durham, aged 72. He was elder brother of Lords Auckland and Henley, and represented the county of Durham from 1774 to 1790.

27. At Bray, in the county of Wicklow, in his 81st year, *John Lord de Blaquiere*, K. B. and a privy-councillor in Ireland. His Lordship was brought up to business; was principal secretary to the lord-lieutenant of Ireland in 1772, whence he gradually rose to his titles and honours. He left a numerous family, of whom the eldest son is now a prisoner in France.

30. *Penelope*, wife of Sir Henry Every, bart. of Eggington, county of Derby.

Lately, *Rear-admiral Laird*, Strathmartin, Scotland.

September.

1. At the Escorial, of a typhus fever, *Major-general Wheatley*, 1st guards.

6. *Major-general Robert Bowles*, of the Bombay establishment, aged 68.

9. *Harriet Countess of Romney*.

19. *Sir Thomas Dingley Hatton*, bart. of Long-Stanton, county of Cambridge. His death was the consequence of being thrown out of a curricule.

20. The honourable *Mrs. Vane*, relict of the honourable *Charles Vane*, of Mount Ida, Norfolk.

Lady Rebecca Peyton, wife of *Sir Yelverton Payton*, bart. aged 87.

21. *Lady Amcotts Ingilby*, wife of *Sir J. Ingilby*, of *Ripley-park*, Yorkshire.

At Bologna, in consequence of a fall from a balloon which had taken fire on being entangled in a tree, *M. Zambecari*.

At Manheim, in consequence of a similar accident, *Bittorf*, a mechanician.

23. The *Prince of Waldeck*, in his 68th year.

24. *Lady Harriet Jane Hay*, 4th daughter of *James Earl of Errol*.

26. At New-York, of a dropsy brought on by habitual intemperance, the celebrated actor, *George Frederic Cooke*, in his 57th year. He was a native of Berwick upon Tweed, and after having acted for some time at Dublin, was engaged at the theatre in Covent-Garden in 1800. His forcible, though coarse, style of acting was so much admired, that the audiences were willing to pardon his many offences against order and decorum arising from ebriety. He exclusively excelled in representing characters of deep

and energetic villany, and in the expression of bitter sarcasm. His manner was entirely his own, and he may be ranked among the small number of original actors.

30. *Elizabeth*, eldest daughter of *Lord Sinclair*.

Major-general William Grant, R.A. aged 84. He had distinguished his zeal and bravery in a service of sixty years.

The honourable *John Astley Bennett*, youngest son of the Earl of Tankerville, and a captain in the navy.

Lately, at the storming of Fort Cayetano, *Major-general Foord Bowes*.

On his passage from Calcutta, *Major-general Macan*.

October.

1. The right honourable *Lady Helen Dalrymple*, relict of *Hugh Dalrymple*, esq. of Fordell.

3. At Castlerosse, Kerry, aged 58, *Valentine Brown*, Earl of Kenmare.

4. The Rev. *Anthony Hamilton*, D.D. rector of Hadham, Hertfordshire, vicar of St. Martin in the Fields, London, and archdeacon of Colchester, aged 74.

The Rev. *John Bickerton Dewhurst*, Hackney, in his 35th year. This excellent person was brought up to the dissenting ministry, but had chiefly employed himself in private tuition, and in the acquisition of learning, of which he possessed a larger share than falls to the lot of many who have obtained much higher distinction in the world. A degree of modesty, bordering on diffidence, locked up the stores of his mind in company, unless particularly called forth; but no one ever consulted him upon

upon a literary topic without receiving satisfactory information, the result of very extensive reading, committed to a most tenacious memory. In classical literature he was not only elegantly but critically skilled, and his knowledge inspired respect even in a Porson. If he had lived to complete the plan of study he had laid down to himself, he would probably have ranked with the first scholars of the age. The only fruits of his learning which he is known to have given to the public, were the classical and biographical articles in the Annual Review, and a series of papers in the *Athenæum*, containing an account of Greek authors, from Homer to Thucydides. These are distinguished by good taste, sound erudition, and spirit of candour and liberality which was one of his characteristics. His private character was such as to gain the affection and esteem of all who knew him; and few men have left the world more sincerely regretted by their friends.

6. At Keith-hall, Scotland, *William Keith*, Earl of Kintore.

Major-general *Brock*, in an action with the Americans in Upper Canada.

13. *Moolvy Meer Abdool Ali*, a native of Lucknow, and a professor of Oriental literature in the East-India College near Hertford.

16. *Baroness Dimsdale*, Hertford, aged 82.

At Carlsruhe, the *Hereditary Prince of Baden*.

17. *James Lind*, M.D. F. R. S. late physician at Windsor, aged 78.

20. The right honourable *Heneage Finch*, Earl of Aylesford, in his 62d year. His lordship married Lady Louisa Thynne, daughter

of the Marquis of Bath, by whom he had fourteen children.

21. *Lady Jane Mackenzie*, daughter of the late Earl of Cromarty.

23. *Grace, Countess Dowager of Meath*, in her 84th year.

28. *Mrs. Susannah Duncombe*, widow of the late Rev. J. Duncombe, of Canterbury, joint-translator with his father of the works of Horace. Mrs. Duncombe was the daughter of Mr. Highmore, a portrait painter in London, whose taste in the arts and love of letters she inherited. She was intimately connected with many eminent votaries of literature, of both sexes, in her day, before the death of her husband, twenty-six years since; after which she lived chiefly in retirement, highly esteemed and beloved by her friends and relatives. Of her literary effusions none met the public eye except a paper or two in the *Adventurer*, and some pieces in the *Poetical Calendar*, and *Nichols's Poems*.

Thomas Eagles, esq. collector of the customs at Bristol, a gentleman of great literary accomplishments, and the translator of the *Deipnosophistæ* of Athenæus.

November.

3. *Sir Charles Talbot*, bart. of Chart park and Mickleham, Surrey, M. P. for Bletchingly.

4. *Philip St. Martin*, Count de Front, ambassador from Sardinia.

5. Major general *Broadhurst*, in the East India company's service.

7. Lieutenant-general *Richard England*.

9. At Paris, in a very advanced age, *David Sintzheim*, grand rabbi, and president of the central consistory

sistory of the Jews in the French empire.

17. *Edward Jerningham*, esq. aged 75, brother to the late, Sir W. Jerningham, bart. of Costessy, Norfolk; known to the public by several works in verse and prose.

19. *Nicholas Wanostrocht*, LL.D. aged 68, many years master of an academy at Camberwell, and author of a number of esteemed elementary works, Latin and French.

27. *The Lady of Sir Cuthbert Heron*, bart. South Shields

38. *Sir Alexander Douglas*, bart. of Glenbervie.

December.

7. *Lady Anne Davy*, relict of Sir John Davy, bart. Creedy, near Crediton.

9. *Wm. Russell* esq. of Slaughter's-court, county of Worcester, in the commission of the peace for that and three adjacent counties, aged 63.

12. The honourable *Lady Grant*, of Airdrie.

14. *George Byng*, Viscount Torrington, aged 72. He is succeeded by his only brother, the honourable John Byng.

Sir John Dick, bart. Prestonfield.

16. In his 68th year, the Rev. *Isaac Gosset*, D. D. F. R. S. well known in the metropolis as a most intelligent purchaser and collector of books, and conspicuous at all public sales by his diminutive person. Dr. Gosset was of a refugee French family, and was the son of a modeller in wax, settled in London. He displayed from early years an extraordinary passion for rare books, and was trained to so-

lid literature under Dr. Kennicott, at Exeter college, Oxford, and other learned men. He became eminent as a preacher, notwithstanding his personal disadvantages, but never sought or obtained preferment. He was a good scriptural critic, and had thought much and freely upon various topics, which, with his natural flow of spirits, and his friendly and communicative disposition, rendered him highly entertaining in conversation. His prominent character, however, was that of an adept in bibliography, in which quality he was looked up to by all of the same turn, to whom he readily imparted his knowledge. He was married, and left two sons and a daughter.

Gustavus Adam Baron Nolcken, his Swedish Majesty's Chamberlain, and minister plenipotentiary for the affairs of Pomerania at the court of Great Britain, aged 80, after a residence of near 49 years in this country. His excellency began his diplomatic career with being chargé d'affaires at the court of Berlin, whence he was removed to be minister plenipotentiary at this court. He had resided in that quality for thirty years, when he was recalled by the present King of Sweden, when regent, to take upon himself the office of president of a court of justice. This he declined, and returned to London in a private capacity, being strongly attached to England. On the accession of Gustavus IV. he was restored to the rank of foreign minister, which he continued to possess. He married the widow of the honourable S. C. Lemaistre, a judge in India, by whom he left two sons. Baron Nolcken passed through life with high

high respectability for his conduct and talents.

26. In his 85th year, *Mr. John Moody*, formerly of Drury-lane Theatre, and the father of English actors. His forte lay in low comedy, particularly in the parts of Irishmen, and he was the original Major O'Flaherty and Capt. O'Cutter.

27. General *John Caillaud*, of the East India service, aged 88.

28. *Lady Rowley*, mother of Sir W. Rowley, Tendering-hall, Suffolk.

29. Lieutenant-colonel *J. Boag*, R. A. aged 79. He was present at the death of General Wolfe on the plains of Abraham.

30. *Sir Denzil Cope*, bart. Bram-zil-park, Hants.

31. General *Sir Thomas Musgrave*, bart. colonel of the 76th foot, and governor of Gravesend and Tilbury forts, aged 75.

Lately, *Gideon Fournier*, esq. F. R. S. barrister at law, and chief magistrate of the county of Surrey.

CENTENARY DEATHS.

January.

Ann Morris, Bath, 104.

Sarah White, Bindon Cottage, near Lullworth, Dorset, 101.

Hen. Chandler, Steeple Claydon, Bucks, 102.

Mrs. Herbert, Buglawton, Cheshire, 100.

Mr. E. Jeffs, Greet, Gloucestershire, 105.

Mrs. Wood, Whitchurch, Salop, 102.

Mrs. Martha Morris, Leeds, 104.

February.

At Jamaica, *Anne Wignell*, a free black woman, aged 146. She was brought from Africa at the age of 12, about 14 years before the destruction of Port Royal by the great earthquake in 1692.

March.

P. M'Intyre, near Haddington, 101. He had been in the Pretender's army at the battle of Culloden, where he received a wound.

John Urszulack, Lemburg, Prussia, 116.

April.

Mrs. Sheppard, Winchester, 102.

Mr. John Brown, Carpenter, of Wymondham, Norfolk, 104.

William Chatfield, Cowfield, Sussex, 105.

James Hinchliffe, clothier, Milshaw, Yorkshire, 102.

Morgan Corslet, Crosswen, Glamorganshire, 109.

Mrs. Price, Rhayader, Radnor, 100.

James Brown, Birse, Aberdeen, 103.

Christian Catanach, *ibid*, 101.

Hugh Blaney, Hannestown, Ireland, 100.

Margaret Bowlanger, near Clermont, Ireland, 102.

Mrs. Dorothea Borough, Limerick, 104.

May.

Mary Norbury, Macclesfield, 100.

Mrs. Parsons, Buxted, Dorset, 101.

Mrs. Powel, Hereford, 102.

Sam.

Sam. Mog, who was a soldier under General Wolfe, at Quebec, 102.

— *Crosier*, a poor woman at Oxford, 106.

Mrs. Ann Vaughan, Meole Brace, Salop, 100.

Eliz. Beech, Market-Drayton, 104.

William Hardy, Caldwell, Yorkshire, 102.

David Gaddis, Cargina, Scotland, 102.

Janet Read, Irvine, 103.

Mrs. Jones, county of Meath, 100.

Thomas O'Brien, county of Limerick, 110.

Cornelius Madigan, county of Clare, 117.

Mrs. Belinda Crawford, county of Galway, 115.

June.

Mrs. Mary Harris, near Falmouth, 113.

Eliz. Williams, near Tavistock, 111.

Mr. Godwin, Newport, 100, and 7 months.

Ann Harris, Badcock, Cornwall, 113, and 6 months.

Ann Retford, Sunderland, 100.

Mary Jones, Berkely, Gloucestershire, 101.

Eliz. Bourne, Worcester, 106.

John Holliday, near Leeds, 100.

Catharine Samuel, Caermarthen, 102.

July.

Mrs. Mary Clarke, Bristol, 104.

Mrs. Sarah Ycomans, Nottingham, 102. She had been married 70 years, and her husband is now in his 98th year.

At Kingston, Jamaica, *Esmine Diamond*, a free black woman, 130.

Mr. Charles Clarke, Over-Peover, Cheshire, 103.

Petronella King, Taunton, 102.

A. Royals, Yarmouth, 103.

August.

Isabella Sharp, Gateshead, 114.

September.

Mr. Henry Martin, Stithians, 104.

November.

Marion Moray, Portmoak, Fife-shire, 102.

Mrs. Scott, Bradninch, Devon, 104.

SHERIFFS

Appointed by the Prince Regent in Council for the Year 1812.

Bedfordshire, J. Cooper, of Toddington, Esq.
 Berkshire, George Elwes, of Marcham, Esq.
 Buckinghamshire, C. Salter, of Stoke Poges, Esq.
 Cambridgeshire and Huntingdons. John Carstairs, of Woodhurst, Esq.
 Cheshire, Edmund Yates, of Ince, Esq.
 Cornwall, J. Vivian, of Pencallenneck, Esq.
 Cumberland, Thomas Hartley, of Linethwaite, Esq.
 Derbyshire, R. Bateman, of Poston, Esq.
 Devonshire, James Hay, of Collypriest, Esq.
 Dorsetshire, Thomas Horlock Bastard, of Charlton Marshall, Esq.
 Essex, Sir Robert Wigram, of Walthamstow, Bart.
 Gloucestershire, Sir William Hicks, of Whitcomb-Park, Bart.
 Herefordshire, Thomas Jay, of Derndale, Esq.
 Hertfordshire, J. Currie, of Essenden, Esq.
 Kent, J. Wells, of Bickley, Esq.
 Lancaster, Edward Greaves, of Culcheth, Esq.
 Leicestershire, R. Cheslyn, of Langley, Esq.
 Lincolnshire, George Lister, of Grisby, Esq.
 Monmouthshire, C. Lewis, of St. Pierre, Esq.
 Norfolk, J. Turner Hales, of Hardingham, Esq.
 Northamptonshire, Peter Denys, of Easton Neston, Esq.
 Northumberland, Ralph Bates, of Milbourn-Hall, Esq.
 Nottinghamshire, Hugh Blades, of Ranby Hall, Esq.
 Oxfordshire, Francis Sackville Lloyd Wheate, of Glympton-Park.
 Rutlandshire, Gerard Noel Noel, of Exton, Esq.
 Shropshire, Richard Lyster, of Rowton, Esq.
 Somersetshire, William Vaughan, of Moneton Combe, Esq.
 Staffordshire, Thomas Mottershaw, of Silkmore-House, Esq.
 Southampton (Hampsh.), Thomas Thistlewaite, of Southwick, Esq.
 Suffolk, Richard Moore, of Melford, Esq.
 Surrey, Thomas Starling Benson, of Champion Lodge, Esq.
 Sussex, George Francis Tyson, of Singleton, Esq.
 Warwickshire, Samuel Peach, of Idlicote, Esq.
 Wiltshire, Sir William Pierce Ashe A'Court, of Heytesbury, Bart.
 Worcestershire, J. Baker, of Waresley, Esq.
 Yorkshire, Sir Thomas Slingsby, of Scriven Park, Bart.

SOUTH WALES.

Carmarthenshire, J. George Phillips, of Cwingwilly, Esq.
 Pembrokeshire, Henry Scourfield, of Robeston-Hall, Esq.
 Cardiganshire, Griffith Jones, of Cardigan, Esq.
 Glamorganshire, Morgan Popkin Traherne, of Goytraherne, Esq.
 Brecon, Charles Fox Crespigny, of Tallyn, Esq.
 Radnor, Thomas Grove, the younger, of Cwn Ellan, Esq.

NORTH

NORTH WALES.

Merionethshire, William Wynne, of Penairth, Esq.
Carnarvonshire, G. T. Smyth, of Penydyffryn, Esq.
Anglesey, Hugh Bulkeley Owen, of Coedana, Esq.
Montgomeryshire, G. Meares, of Pynnant, Esq.
Denbighshire, William Edwards, of Hendre-House, Esq.
Flintshire, Hugh Humphrys, of Parypille, Esq.

APPENDIX TO CHRONICLE.

ARTICLES FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

*London Gazette Extraordinary,
Tuesday Jan. 21.*

Downing-street, Jan. 20, 1812.

CAPTAIN HARRIS, commanding his Majesty's ship Sir Francis Drake, arrived last night at Lord Liverpool's office with a dispatch, of which the following is a copy:—

Batavia, Sept. 29, 1811.

Sir,—I had the honour to acquaint you, in my dispatch of the 1st instant, that the conquest of Java was at that time substantially accomplished by the glorious and decisive victory of the 20th of August.

I am happy to announce to your excellency the realization of those views, by the actual surrender of the island and its dependencies by a capitulation concluded between their excellencies Lieut.-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty and General Jansens, on the 18th of September.

I have the honour to inclose a report which the commander-in-chief has addressed to me, of the proceedings of the army subsequent to the 26th of August, with its inclosures.

Your excellency will observe with satisfaction, from these documents, that the final pacification

of the island has been hastened by fresh examples of the same spirit, decision, and judgment which have marked the measures of his excellency the commander-in-chief, and of the same gallantry which has characterised the troops since the hour of their disembarkation on this coast.

The commander-in-chief will sail in a few days for India; and I flatter myself that I shall be able to embark on board his Majesty's ship *Modeste*, for Bengal, about the middle of October.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) MINTO.

To his Excellency R. T. Farquhar, esq. &c. Isle of France.

*Modeste, off Samarang,
Sept. 21, 1811.*

My Lord,—I have the honour to submit to your lordship, a continuation of the report which it is my duty to lay before you, of the proceedings of the army under my command.

Immediately on receiving the intelligence of General Jansens' retreat from Bugtenzorg by an eastern route, and the occupation of that post by our troops, I placed a force, consisting of the 3rd battalion of Bengal volunteers, and a detachment

detachment of artillery with two guns, under the order of Colonel Wood, and directed his embarkation, in communication with Rear Admiral Stopford, who ordered three frigates on this service, for the purpose of occupying the fort of Cheribon. Transports were at the same time put in a state of preparation for a force, consisting of the detachment of the Royal, and a company of Bengal artillery, a troop of his Majesty's 22d dragoons, his Majesty's 14th and 78th regiments of foot, the 4th battalion of Bengal volunteer Sepoys, the Madras pioneers, and a small ordnance equipment, with which it was my intention to embark, and accompanying Rear-Admiral Stopford with the squadron, for the attack of Sourabaya and Fort Louis, towards which place it was supposed the enemy had retired.

A large part of his Majesty's 14th regiment, the royal artillery, and six field-pieces, were, by the kindness of Rear-Admiral Stopford, received on board his Majesty's ships of war, and they, with the transports, sailed as they could be got ready for sea, with orders to rendezvous off the point of Sidayo, near the western entrance of the harbour of Sourabaya. I embarked on the 4th of September; and early in the morning on the 5th, sailed to join the troops in his Majesty's ship *Modeste*, which the admiral, in attention to my convenience, had allotted for my accommodation.

On the 6th of September, when on the point of Indermayo, I learned from an express-boat which had been boarded by Commodore Broughton, that Cheribon was in possession of the frigates detached

on that service, having separated from the transport on board of which all their troops but the commodore had embarked. Captain Beaver, the senior officer of the squadron, had landed the seamen and marines, and occupied the fort, which surrendered to his summons in time to make a prisoner of Brigadier Jamelle, while passing on his route from Bugtenzorg, with many other officers and troops. Letters intercepted on this occasion from General Jansens, announced his intention to collect his remaining force near Samarang, and to retire on Solo. This intelligence determined me to sail for Cheribon, where I arrived on the evening of the 7th of September; and finding that no troops had yet arrived, that a detachment of seamen and marines had marched inland on the Bugtenzorg road, and been successful in securing great numbers of the fugitives from thence, and gaining possession, on terms of capitulation, of the post of Carong Sambong on that route, I sent immediate orders for the march of reinforcements from the district of Batavia. The cavalry, half of the horse artillery, and the detachment of his Majesty's 89th regiment from Bugtenzorg, were desired to join me at Samarang, by the route of Cheribon, and the light infantry volunteer battalion was ordered to embark at Batavia for the same place.

I obtained from Captain Beaver, of his Majesty's ship *Nisus*, the dispatch of vessels in every direction to meet the straggling transports on their route to Sourabaya, and direct them all to rendezvous at Samarang; addressing a letter to the Hon. Admiral Stopford, to Commodore Broughton, and all the

the captains of his Majesty's ships, requesting them to give similar orders. I sailed the same evening in the *Modeste*, and, after meeting the *Windham* transport, and ordering her with the 3rd volunteer battalion to Cheribon, directed my course to Samarang. I arrived there on the 9th, and was shortly afterwards joined by Rear-Admiral Stopford, the commodore, and a few transports, having on board a part of his Majesty's 14th regiment, half the 78th, the artillery detachments, six field pieces, and the detachment of pioneers.

To ascertain the fact of General Jansens' presence, and feel how far the capture of General Jamelle and the troops from Bugtenzorg might have changed his plan, I repeated to him on the 10th, in concert with the admiral, an invitation to surrender the island on terms of capitulation; and Captain Elliott and Colonel Agnew were charged with the communication. They saw the general—received his reply,—ascertained that he had still with him at least a numerous staff,—and that he professed a determination to persevere in the contest. The small force with me did not admit of my attempting to assault the place, while it was supposed to be thus occupied; but an attack was made that night by the boats of the squadron, on several gun-vessels of the enemy moored across the entrance of the rivers leading to the town end; the precipitation with which they were abandoned, gave a character of probability to accounts which reached us from fishermen and others, that the general was occupied in withdrawing his troops to the interior, and had fortified a position at a short

distance on the road towards Solo or Soercarta, the residence of the Emperor of Java.

On the 12th of September, as no other troops had arrived, it was determined to attack the town: a summons was first sent to the commandant, and it appeared, that the enemy had^e (as at Batavia) evacuated the place, leaving it to be surrendered by the commander of the Burghers. It was that night occupied by a detachment under Colonel Gibbs; and all the troops I could collect were landed on the following day.

It was ascertained that the enemy had retired to a strong position, about six miles distance on the Solo road, carrying with him all the chief civil, as well as military officers of the district, and that he was busied in completing batteries and intrenchments in a pass of the hills, where he had collected the residue of his regular troops, some cannon, and a force, including the auxiliary troops of the native princes, exceeding eight hundred men, cavalry, infantry, and artillery, commanded by many European officers of rank.

As any check of the attempts of our troops at this important period might have been productive of the worst effects, I thought it prudent to wait the hourly expected arrival of a larger force; but after two days passed at Samarang without their appearance, I resolved to risk an attack with the slender means at my disposal, rather than to give the enemy confidence by a longer delay, or afford them time to complete their works, which were said to be still imperfect.

For these reasons, on the evening of the 14th, I had directed preparations

preparations to be made for an attack on the following day, when intelligence arrived that the Windham had sailed for Cheribon with some troops, and several vessels were seen in the offing; I therefore countermanded the orders, in the expectation of succours; but the admiral, anxious, on account of the approaching unfavourable season, to secure a safe anchorage for the ships, sailed in the morning, with two ships of the line and three frigates, to attack Fort Louis, and, if successful, to occupy the harbour of Sourabaya.

The Windham alone arrived in the course of the night, and even the very slender reinforcement which she brought was, situated as we were, of great importance, and it enabled me to withdraw all the European garrison from the fort of Samarang, and to add a company of Sepoys to the field force, which thus strengthened did not exceed one thousand one hundred infantry, and the necessary artillery to man four six pounders, with some pioneers.

I did not think it proper to assume the direct command of so small a detachment: I confided it to Colonel Gibbs, of his Majesty's 69th regiment, proceeding, however, with the troops, that I might be at hand to profit by any fortunate result of the attack.

Experience had warranted my reposing the fullest confidence in the valour and discipline of the troops. I had the good fortune to command, and taught me to appreciate those which the enemy could oppose to them. Many of the fugitives from Cornelius were in their ranks, and the rest of their forces were strongly impress-

ed, by their exaggerated accounts, with the dangers to be dreaded from the impetuosity of our troops. I did not, therefore, feel apprehension of any unfortunate result from attacking the enemy with numbers so very disproportionate; but from our total want of cavalry, I did not expect to derive from it any very decisive advantage, beyond that of driving them from the position they had chosen.

The small party of cavalry, of which I had been disappointed by the absence of the transports which conveyed them, would have been invaluable; much of the enemy's force was mounted, and they had some horse artillery, while not even the horses of my staff were arrived, and our artillery and ammunition were to be moved by hand by the lascars and pioneers, who for this purpose were attached to the field-pieces.

Colonel Gibbs marched at two o'clock on the morning of the 16th from Samarang, and after ascending some steep hills, at the distance of near six miles, the fires of the enemy appeared a little before the dawn of day extending along the summit of a hill, which crossed our front at Jattee Allee, and over part of which the road was cut; the doubtful light, and great height of the hill they occupied, made the position appear at first most formidable. It was resolved to attack it immediately; and as the leading division or advance of the detachments moved forward to turn the enemy's left, a fire was opened on them from many guns placed on the summit of the hill, and various positions on its face, which completely commanded the road; these were answered by our field-pieces

as they came up, with the effect, though fired from a considerable distance, and with great elevation, of confusing the enemy's artillery in directing their fire, from which a very trifling loss was sustained. Their flank was turned with little difficulty but what arose from the extreme steepness of the ascent; and after a short but ineffectual attempt to stop, by the fire of some guns advantageously posted across a deep ravine, the advance of the body of our detachment, the enemy abandoned the greatest part of their artillery, and were seen in great numbers, and in great confusion, in full retreat.

Our want of cavalry to follow the fugitives with speed, the steepness of the road, and the necessity for removing chevaux de frise with which the passage was obstructed, gave time for the escape of the enemy, while our troops, exhausted by their exertions, were recovering their breath.

It was evident that their army was completely disunited; several officers, some of them of rank, were taken; their native allies, panic struck, had abandoned their officers, and only a few pieces of horse artillery remained of their field ordnance. With these they attempted to cover their retreat, pursued by Col. Gibbs, who, with the detachment, passed several incomplete and abandoned batteries; and at noon, and after twelve miles march over a rugged country, approached the village of Oonarang, in which, and in the small fort beyond it, the enemy appeared to have halted, and collected in irregular masses. Small cannon from the fort and village opened on the

line as it advanced. Our field-pieces were brought up to a commanding station, and by their fire covered the formation of the troops, who, led by Colonel Gibbs, were advancing to assault the fort, when, it was evacuated by the enemy; alarmed by our fire, they were seen to abandon it and its vicinity in the utmost confusion, leaving some light guns with much ammunition and provisions in the village, where they had broken the bridge to impede pursuit; the road beyond it was covered with the caps, clothing, and military equipments of their troops, who seem to have been completely routed and dispersed.

A number of officers made prisoners confirmed this belief; our troops had however marched so far, that they were unequal to a longer pursuit, and were quartered in the fort and the barracks which the enemy had quitted.

Early in the night Brigadier Winkleman, with some other officers, came into my quarters with a flag of truce from General Jansens, who was stated to be fifteen miles in advance of my position, Solatiga, on the road to Solo; the brigadier was charged to request an armistice, that the governor-general might communicate with your lordship on terms of capitulation. He was informed by my direction, that he must treat with me, and that without delay; I, however, consented, in consideration of the distance of his position, to grant, for the express purpose of capitulation, an armistice of twenty-four hours, to commence from six o'clock on the following morning, and limited in its effect to the forces present.

With

With this answer Brigadier Winkelman returned, accepting the armistice proposed.

I was perfectly aware of the general sentiments of Rear-Admiral Stopford, regarding the object on which our joint services were employed, from the unreserved communication I had held with him. He had sailed for Sourabaya with the declared intention of attacking Fort Louis, and of returning to his station when the service was accomplished; and he was most anxious for its speedy termination, as he had informed me, he did not think ships would be safe on the northern coasts of Java after the 4th of October, unless Sourabaya was in our possession.

All these considerations were strong in my mind against the delay of a reference to him; and confident that the important object of obtaining for Great Britain an immediate surrender of the island ought not to be impeded or delayed by any point merely of form, I did not hesitate to act individually, and on my sole responsibility, for the interests of the state. I had also cause to fear, if the favourable moment was allowed to pass, that the allies of the enemy might recover from their panic, that Gen. Jansens might learn the small amount of our force, that he might again collect his troops and retire on Solo, where, profiting by the period of approaching rains, he might prolong the contest; and though I could not doubt its ultimate success, a war in the interior would have embarrassed our arrangements, and have involved the affairs of the colony in inextricable confusion.

On the forenoon of the 17th of

September, the Commander de Kock, brigadier and chief of the staff of the French army on Java, arrived at Oonarang, with powers from General Jansens to treat of a capitulation, which I authorized Col. Agnew, the adjutant-general of the forces, to discuss with him on my part: the result was, the signature by them of the articles I have the honour to inclose, No. 1, with which General de Kock returned in the afternoon to obtain General Jansens' approval.

At three o'clock in the morning on the 18th, Brigadier Winkelman arrived at my quarters from Gen. Jansens, who declined to sign the articles which had been agreed upon, adverting particularly to those which concerned the debts of the government to individuals. He requested that I would meet the general half-way, or stated that he would, if preferred, come to my quarters at Oonarang, for the purpose of discussion or explanation of those articles.

As the situation in which it is evident he stood deprived him of all claim to those terms of capitulation which had he profited by the former invitations made while he still possessed the means of defence, he might perhaps have obtained, and as my situation with a force unequal to prosecute operations further in the interior would not admit of delay, I assumed a firm tone; and desiring Gen. Winkelman to be informed that personal respect for the character of Gen. Jansens had alone induced me to grant any terms to his army, announced to him that the armistice would cease at the appointed hour, and the troops march forward at the same time.

Colonel

Colonel Agnew gave orders for this purpose in his presence; and informed him that if Gen. Jansens allowed the opportunity of capitulating now offered to escape, by not accepting the terms already prepared, no other could be offered. Brigadier Winkleman returned with all speed to General Jansens, and Colonel Gibbs marched with his detachments at six o'clock on the road to Soligata, where, after advancing about five miles, he was met by Brigadier Winkleman, bearing the capitulation confirmed by the signature of Gen. Jansens, and accompanied by a letter, No. 2. which strongly marked the acuteness of his feelings at being compelled, by the desertion of his allies, and the destruction of his army, to adopt this measure.

The detachment counter-marched immediately, and after sending a company (at the request of Brigadier Winkleman) to secure the guns in the post of Soligata, moved back to Oonarang, whence on the evening I returned to Samarang, just before General Jansens had announced his intention of joining me at the former place. The general, with great part of his officers, also reached Samarang that night. I visited him on the following day, and arranged for the equipment of a transport to convey him to Batavia with his suite, on which they embarked this morning.

I have dispatched Colonel Gibbs to assume the command of the division of Sourabaya, to which I have allotted his Majesty's 78th regiment, the 4th volunteer battalion, the light infantry battalion, and the royal artillery; I have sent a small detachment under Major

Yule, of the 20th Bengal regiment; an officer on whose conduct I have much reliance, to accompany the Prince of Samanap and his force to the island of Madura, where I have directed the Major to assume command, subject to the general control of Colonel Gibbs; he has been instructed to occupy the small forts of Joanna and Rambang on his route, and I have directed that of Japara to be occupied from Samarang. Idiamayo and Pacalonga have been garrisoned by troops from Cheribon. In mentioning the Prince of Samanap, it would be unjust to him not to report, that, prior to my march from Samarang, to attack the enemy, he sent to ask my orders, being, with two thousand of his people, within a short distance at Damak. He visited me on my return to Samarang, and expressed an earnest wish for the protection and friendship of the British nation.

As Colonel Wood requested permission to relinquish the command of Samarang, and return to Bengal, I appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Watson, of his Majesty's 14th regiment, to relieve him in the command. The 14th regiment, a small detachment of artillery, and part of the 3rd volunteer battalion, have been stationed at Samarang, and will shortly, I trust, be reinforced by the arrival of the detachments of the horse-artillery, cavalry, and 89th regiment.

I have detached Captain Robinson, your lordship's aid-de-camp, with a small escort, to the courts of Solo and D'Jogocarta, to deliver a letter from me to the Emperor and Sultan, and announce the change that has taken place; I

have also called upon the residents at their courts, Van Braam and Englehard, to continue, agreeably to the capitulation, the exercise of their functions in behalf of the British government, and to secure carefully the public property of the late government, placed in the territories of the respective princes at whose court they reside.

I have also required the other public functionaries of the late government to continue in the temporary exercise of their functions, which hitherto I have found no instance of their declining to perform.

It will be necessary soon to arrange for the guard of honour attached to the Emperor and Sultan of the troops of the European government of Java, and for the occupation of the forts at their capital, and on the lines of communication to and between these; but this will be easily arranged when the troops ordered to Samarang shall have arrived, and the report of Captain Robinson shall have warranted a judgment of the strength of these detachments.

I embarked this morning in his Majesty's ship *Modeste* for Batavia, and shall have the honour of receiving your lordship's personal commands, and discussing with you the several military arrangements which it may be necessary to make for the security of the island of Java and its dependencies, previous to my return to Madras, which it is my wish to do without delay.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) S. AUCHMUTY,
Lieut.-Gen.

To the Right Hon. Lord Minto,
Governor-general, &c.

The articles of capitulation follow, with various official returns, and the proceedings of the naval force under Rear-Admiral Stopford.

From the London Gazette, Jan. 25.

Tariffa, Dec. 24.

Sir,—I have the honour to report, that, on the 20th instant, the enemy invested this town with from 4 to 5,000 infantry, and from 2 to 300 cavalry. As it was not advisable to fight so superior a force, I resisted him for an hour with the cavalry and infantry, Spanish and British piquets of the garrison, reinforced by a company of the 95th, and two six-pounder field-guns of Captain Hughes' Brigade. The loss of the enemy was considerable. On the 21st, Captain Wren, of the 11th, destroyed, with his company, a small piquet of the enemy. The 22nd, I made a sortie at the request of General Copons, and in conjunction with his troops, with the intention to ascertain the numbers of the enemy, by inducing him to show his columns. His light troops suffered considerably from our shells. The enemy is now making his approaches at a long musket-shot from the town; but the ground so completely commands us, and is so favourable to him, that our small guns have little or no effect upon him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. B. SKERRETT,
Colonel.

To Major-general Cooke, &c.

Tariffa, Dec. 30.

Sir,—In my last I had the honour

nour to state, that the enemy had invested this town on the 20th instant; since which period he has rapidly carried on a regular parallel and approach against the wall of the town, which I consider as doing much honour to the garrison. I have several times found it necessary to drive back the enemy's advance, and to interrupt his works, in which we have met with a slight loss; and the enemy, from being exposed to the fire of the few small guns we possess on the towers, has suffered considerably. It was only on these occasions that we materially annoyed the enemy; for the wall of the town is so completely commanded, that, in a few hours' work, he has every where much better cover than ourselves. The enemy yesterday opened his fire at half-past ten, and continued to batter in breach at a distance of about 300 yards, with four French 16-pounders on the east wall, near the Retiro gate, and four howitzers and other smaller pieces playing on the island and causeway. He continued a constant fire until night, the first and each shot passing through the wall, and through some houses in the rear of it. Before night a practicable breach was effected. He this day continued to widen the breach, and, I imagine, will not attempt the assault until it is extended to the tower on each flank (a space of about forty yards). I have traversed the streets, and have taken the only measure by which there is a chance of preserving the place—that of defending the houses. The enemy's force employed in the siege is stated at 10,000; probably this is in some degree exaggerated. A con-

stant fire of musketry is interchanged. I have particularly to regret the loss of the service of Lieutenant Guanter, deputy-assistant quarter-master-general, a very intelligent and brave officer, who is severely wounded. Inclosed is a return of killed and wounded since my last.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. H. SKERRETT,
Colonel.

London Gazette Extraordinary.

Downing-Street, Jan. 28.

Capt. O'Donoghue, acting aide-camp to Colonel Skerrett, has arrived this morning at Lord Liverpool's office, with dispatches from Major-General Cooke, of which the following are copies:—

My Lord,—I beg leave to congratulate your Lordship upon the complete failure of the enemy's expedition against Tariffa, and refer you to the inclosed copy of my letter to Gen. Lord Wellington, conveying Col. Skerrett's reports of the French having been repulsed with great loss in assaulting the breach which they had effected in the wall, and of their having retreated on the night of the 4th, leaving their heavy artillery and a quantity of stores on the ground.

Your lordship will see that Colonel Skerrett, and the brave troops under his command, have thoroughly done their duty. He has expressed his sense of the effectual co-operation of the Spanish troops under General Copons, who, in his report gives his full approbation of the conduct of Colonel Skerrett,

and the British troops under his orders, upon this, as he has done upon former occasions during the last three months.

Capt. O'Donoghue, of the 47th regiment, acting aid-de-camp to Colonel Skerrett, has charge of this dispatch, and will give your lordship any details relative to the late events at Tariffa.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) G. COOKE,
Major-General.

The Earl of Liverpool, &c.

Cadiz, Jan. 10.

My Lord,—I last night received a dispatch from Colonel Skerrett, dated the 1st instant, of which I have the honour to transmit a copy, reporting the defeat of a strong column of the enemy on the day before, in an assault of the breach which they had made in the wall of Tariffa. I received at the same time intelligence from Lieutenant-General Campbell, that the French had broke up from before the place on the night of the 4th, leaving their artillery, &c. and retiring by a pass of La Pena, under the fire of the navy. I have this morning received Colonel Skerrett's report of that most satisfactory event by his aid-de-camp, Captain O'Donoghue, and I beg leave to refer your lordship to copies of them.

I have, &c.

GEORGE COOKE, Maj.-Gen.
Gen. Lord Visc. Wellington, &c.

Tariffa, Jan. 1.

Sir,—In my last I had the honour to state, that the enemy commenced to batter in breach on the 29th of December; since which period, until yesterday, he kept up

a heavy fire of cannon on the breach, and of shells on the town, causeway, and island. At eight o'clock on the morning of the 31st Dec. a strong column was seen rapidly advancing to the breach; our musketry several times checked the enemy; and the firm front and intrepid behaviour of the troops, in less than an hour, gained a complete victory. The most bold of the enemy fell near the foot of the breach, and the mass of the column made a precipitate retreat.

The situation of the enemy's wounded, with which the ground was covered between his battery and our fire, where they must inevitably have perished, induced me, from motives of compassion, to hoist a flag of truce to carry them off. Some were brought into the place over the breach; but from the extreme difficulty attending this, I allowed the enemy to carry the remainder away. General Laval, the French commander-in-chief, expressed his acknowledgments for the conduct of the British and Spanish nations on this occasion, in the most feeling and grateful terms. We have made prisoners, ten officers, and twenty or thirty soldiers; the enemy's loss has been very severe. The column that attacked the breach was two thousand men composed of all the grenadiers and voltigeurs of the army. The enemy invested this town on the 20th of December, since which period, one thousand British and seven or eight hundred Spanish troops, with only a defence of a wall, which appears to have been built as a defence against archery, and before the use

use of gunpowder, have resisted an army of ten thousand men, with a regular battering train of artillery, and have at last defeated and repulsed them. The wall of the town has the additional disadvantage of being commanded within half musket shot, and flanked or taken in reverse in almost every part.

The conduct of all the troops has been admirable, and that of Lieutenant-Colonel Gough, and the 2nd battalion of the 87th regiment, exceeds all praise. Equal credit is due to the indefatigable exertions of Captain Smith's royal engineers, to whom much of our success is due. I have on all occasions received the greatest assistance from the military experience and the great exertions of Lieutenant Colonel Lord Proby, second in command.

We have to regret the loss of two officers killed: Lieutenant Longley, royal engineers, and Lieutenant Hall, 47th regiment.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. B. SKERRETT,
Colonel.

To Major-general Cooke, &c. &c.
Return of killed, wounded, and missing in the action at Tariffa on the 31st of December, 1811.

Royal Engineers—1 lieutenant killed.

2d Battalion 47th regiment—1 lieutenant, 1 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant, 2 rank and file, wounded.

2d Battalion 87th regiment—5 rank and file killed; 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 21 rank and file, wounded.

2d Battalion 95th regiment—1 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded.

Total—2 officers, 7 rank and file, killed; 3 officers, 24 rank and file, wounded.

Names of officers killed and wounded

Royal Engineers—Lieutenant Longley, killed.

2d Battalion 47th regiment—Lieutenant Hall, killed; Lieutenant Hill, slightly wounded.

2d Battalion 87th regiment—Lieutenant M. Carroll and Ensign Waller, slightly wounded.

(Signed) T. BUNBURY,
Brigade-Major.

Tariffa, Jan. 5.

Sir,—In my letter of the 1st instant, I had the honour to relate the particulars of our proceedings here, and of our victory at the breach. Since that period the enemy has kept up a partial fire, and the breach was yesterday completely open for the space of 25 or 30 yards.

From the movements of the enemy last night, I was induced to suppose he intended another assault, and the garrison waited in eager expectation to give him another proof of British valour. To our astonishment, this morning at daylight, the columns of the enemy were already at a distance, having taken advantage of a dark and stormy night to make a precipitate retreat, leaving in our possession all his artillery, ammunition, stores, &c. &c. I immediately ordered Major Brand, with a part of the 47th regiment, to follow the enemy; he took possession of his artillery, waggons, and a quantity of stores, time enough to save them from the flames, the enemy having set fire to them. We have made some prisoners.

From

From the number of dead found upon the ground the enemy occupied, his loss on the whole most have been very great. Marshal Victor was present in the French camp, to give orders for the retreat.

We have thus seen the greatest effort the French are capable of making frustrated by eighteen hundred British and Spanish troops, with only the defence of a paltry wall; and an army of ten thousand men, commanded by a marshal of France, retreating from them silently in the night, after having been repulsed and defeated, leaving behind all their artillery and stores, collected at a great expense and by immense exertions.

I inclose a return of artillery and stores taken from the enemy. The unremitting vigilance and exertion, the zeal and intrepidity, of every individual of this garrison is above praise.

I have the honour to dispatch this by my acting aid-de-camp, Captain O'Donoghue, of the 47th Regiment, who is in possession of every information relative to my proceedings at this place, an officer of great merit and considerable length of service.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. B. SKERRETT,
Colonel.

*London Gazette Extraordinary,
Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1812.*

Downing-Street Feb. 4.

Major the honourable A. Gordon has arrived this evening at Lord Liverpool's Office with a dispatch, addressed to his lordship by General Viscount Wellington, dated Gallegos, Jan. 20, 1812.

My Lord,—I informed your lordship in my dispatch of the 9th, that I had attacked Ciudad Rodrigo, and in that of the 15th, of the progress of the operations to that period; and I have now the pleasure to acquaint your lordship, that we took the place by storm yesterday evening after dark.

We continued from the 15th to the 19th to complete the second parallel, and the communications with that work; and we had made some progress by sap towards the crest of the glacis. On the night of the 15th, we likewise advanced from the left of the first parallel down the slope of the hill, towards the Convent of St. Francisco, to a situation from which the walls of the Fausse Braye and of the town were seen, on which a battery of seven guns was constructed, and they commenced their fire on the morning of the 18th.

In the mean time, the batteries in the parallel continued their fire; and yesterday evening their fire had not only considerably injured the defences of the place, but had made breaches in the Fausse Braye wall, and in the body of the place, which were considered practicable; while the battery on the slope of the hill, which had been commenced on the night of the 15th, and had opened on the 18th, had been equally efficient still further to the left, and opposite to the suburb of St. Francisco.

I therefore determined to storm the place, notwithstanding that the approaches had not been brought to the crest of the glacis, and the counterscarp of the ditch was still entire. The attack was accordingly made yesterday evening in five separate columns, consisting of the troops

troops of the third and right divisions, and of Brigadier-general Pack's brigade. The two light columns, conducted by Lieutenant-colonel O'Toole, of the 2d Caçadores, and Major Ridge, of the 5th regiment, were destined to protect the advance of Major-General M'Kinnon's brigade, forming the third, to the top of the breach in the Fausse Braye wall; and all these, being composed of troops of the third division, were under the direction of Lieutenant-General Picton.

The fourth column, consisting of the 43d and 52d regiments, and part of the 95th regiment, being of the light division under the direction of Major-General Craufurd, attacked the breaches on the left, in front of the suburb of St. Francisco, and covered the left of the attack of the principal breach by the troops of the third division; and Brigadier-General Pack was destined with his brigade, forming the fifth column, to make a false attack upon the southern face of the fort. Besides these five columns, the 94th regiment, belonging to the third division, descended into the ditch in two columns on the right of Major-Gen. M'Kinnon's brigade, with a view to protect the descent of that body into the ditch, and its attack of the breach in the Fausse Braye, against the obstacles which it was supposed the enemy would construct to oppose their progress.

All these attacks succeeded; and Brigadier-General Pack even surpassed my expectations, having converted his false attack into a real one, and his advanced guard, under the command of Major Lynch, having followed the enemy's troops

from the advanced works into the Fausse Braye, where they made prisoners of all opposed to them.

Major Ridge, of the 2d battalion of the 5th regiment, having escalated the Fausse Braye wall, stormed the principal breach in the body of the place, together with the 94th regiment, commanded by Lieut. Colonel Campbell, which had moved along the ditch at the same time, and stormed the breach in the Fausse Braye, both in front of Major-General M'Kinnon's brigade. Thus these regiments not only effectually covered the advance from the trenches of Major-General M'Kinnon's brigade by their first movements and operations, but they preceded them in the attack.

Major-Gen. Craufurd, and Major-Gen. Vandeleur, and the troops of the light division on the left, were likewise very forward on that side; and in less than half an hour from the time the attack commenced, our troops were in possession of, and formed on the ramparts of the place, each body contiguous to the other. The enemy then submitted, having sustained a considerable loss in the contest.

Our loss was also, I am concerned to add, severe, particularly in officers of high rank and estimation in this army. Major-General M'Kinnon was unfortunately blown up by the accidental explosion of one of the enemy's expense magazines, close to the breach, after he had gallantly and successfully led the troops under his command to the attack. Major-General Craufurd likewise received a severe wound while he was leading on the light division to the storm, and I am apprehensive that I shall be deprived

deprived for some time of his assistance. Major-General Vandeleur was likewise wounded in the same manner, but not so severely, and he was able to continue in the field. I have to add to this list, Lieutenant-Colonel Colborne, of the 53d regiment, and Major-Geo. Napier, who led the storming party of the light division, and was wounded on the top of the breach.

I have great pleasure in reporting to your lordship the uniform good conduct, spirit of enterprize, and patience and perseverance in the performance of great labour, by which the general officers, officers, and troops of the 1st, 3d, 4th, and light divisions, and Brigadier-General Pack's brigade, by whom the siege was carried on, have been distinguished during the late operations. Lieutenant-General Graham assisted me in superintending the conduct of the details of the siege, besides performing the duties of the general officer commanding the first division; and I am much indebted to the suggestions and assistance I received from him for the success of this enterprize.

The conduct of all parts of the third division, in the operations which they performed with so much gallantry and exactness on the evening of the 19th, in the dark, afford the strongest proof of the abilities of Lieutenant-General Picton and Major-General M'Kinnon, by whom they were directed and led; but I beg particularly to draw your lordship's attention to the conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel O'Toole of the 2d Caçadores, of Major Ridge of the 2d battalion 5th foot, of Lieutenant-Colonel

Campbell of the 94th regiment, of Major Manners of the 74th, and of Major Grey of the 2d battalion 5th foot, who has been twice wounded during this siege.

It is but justice also to the 3d division to report, that the men who performed the sap belonged to the 45th, 74th, and 88th regiments, under the command of Captain M'Leod of the royal engineers, and Captain Thompson of the 74th, Lieutenant Beresford of the 88th, and Lieutenant Metcalf of the 45th, and they distinguished themselves not less in the storm of the place, than they had in the performance of their laborious duty during the siege.

I have already reported in my letter of the 9th instant, my sense of the conduct of Major General Craufurd, and of Lieutenant-Colonel Colborne, and of the troops of the light division, in the storm of the redoubt of St. Francisco, on the evening of the 8th instant. The conduct of these troops was equally distinguished throughout the siege, and in the storm nothing could exceed the gallantry with which these brave officers and troops advanced and accomplished the difficult operation allotted to them, notwithstanding that all their leaders had fallen.

I particularly request your lordship's attention to the conduct of Major-General Craufurd, Major-General Vandeleur, Lieut.-Colonel Barnard of the 95th, Lieut.-Col. Colborne, Major Gibbs, and Major Napier of the 52d, and Lieutenant-Colonel M'Leod of the 43d. The conduct of Captain Duffy of the 43d, and that of Lieutenant Gurwood of the 52d regiment, who was wounded, have likewise been

been particularly reported to me; Lieutenant-Colonel Elder, and the 3d Caçadores, were likewise distinguished upon this occasion.

The 1st Portuguese regiment, under Lieut.-Colonel Hill, and the 16th, under Colonel Campbell, being Brigadier-General Pack's brigade, were likewise distinguished in the storm, under the command of the Brigadier-General, who particularly mentions Major Lynch.

In my dispatch of the 15th, I reported to your lordship the attack of the Convent of Santa Cruz, by the troops of the 1st division, under the direction of Lieutenant-General Graham, and that of the Convent of St. Francisco, on the 14th instant, under the direction of Major-General the honourable C. Colville. The first-mentioned enterprize was performed by Captain Laroche de Stackenfels, of the 1st line battalion of the King's German legion; the last by Lieutenant Colonel Harcourt, with the 40th regiment. This regiment remained from that time in the suburb of St. Francisco, and materially assisted our attack on that side of the place.

Although it did not fall to the lot of the troops of the 1st and 4th divisions to bring these operations to their successful close, they distinguished themselves throughout their progress, by the patience and perseverance with which they performed the labours of the siege. The brigade of guards, under Major-gen. H. Campbell was particularly distinguished in this respect.

I likewise request your lordship's attention to the conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Fletcher, the chief engineer, and of Brigade Major Jones, and the officers and men of the Royal Engineers. The abi-

lity with which these operations were carried on exceeds all praise; and I beg leave to recommend those officers to your lordship most particularly.

Major Dickson, of the royal artillery, attached to the Portuguese artillery, has for some time had the direction of the heavy train attached to this army, and has conducted the intricate details of the late operation, as he did those of the late sieges of Badajoz, in the last summer, much to my satisfaction. The rapid execution produced by the well-directed fire kept up from our batteries, affords the best proof of the merits of the officers and men of the royal artillery, and of the Portuguese artillery employed on this occasion. But I must particularly mention Brigade Major May, and Captains Holcombe, Power, Dynely, and Dundas, of the royal artillery; and Captains Da Cunha and Da Corta, and Lieut. Silva of the 1st regiment of Portuguese artillery.

I have likewise particularly to report to your lordship the conduct of Major Sturgeon, of the royal staff corps. He constructed and placed for us the bridge over the Agueda, without which the enterprize could not have been attempted; and he afterwards materially assisted Lieutenant-General Graham and myself, in our reconnoissance of the place, on which the plan of the attack was founded; and he finally conducted the 2d battalion 5th regiment, as well as the 2d Caçadores, to their points of attack.

The adjutant-general, and the deputy quarter-master-general, and the officers of their several departments, gave me every assistance throughout this service, as well as those

those of my personal staff; and I have great pleasure in adding, that, notwithstanding the season of the year, and the increased difficulties of procuring supplies for the troops, the whole army have been well supplied, and every branch of the service provided for during the late operations, by the indefatigable exertions of Mr. Commissary-general Bisset, and the officers belonging to his department.

The Marshal del Campo, Don Carlos d'España, and Don Julian Sanchez, observed the enemy's movements beyond the Tormes, during the operations of the siege; and I am much obliged to them, and to the people of Castile in general, for the assistance I received from them. The latter have invariably shown their detestation of the French tyranny, and their desire to contribute by every means in their power to remove it.

I will hereafter transmit to your lordship a detailed account of what we have found in the place; but I believe there are 153 pieces of ordnance, including the heavy train belonging to the French army, and great quantities of ammunition and stores. We have the Governor, General Banier, about seventy-eight officers, and one thousand seven hundred men, prisoners.

I transmit this dispatch by my aid-de-camp, the honourable Major Gordon, who will give your lordship any further details you may require; and I beg leave to recommend him to your protection.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WELLINGTON.

I inclose a return of the prisoners, and of the ordnance which has been taken on this occasion. I have not yet been able to collect the returns

of the killed and wounded; I therefore transmit a list containing the names of those who have fallen according to the best information I could obtain, and I will forward the returns to your lordship as soon as possible.

Gallegos, Jan. 22.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inclose the returns of the killed and wounded of the troops engaged in the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo, which it was not in my power to transmit to your Lordship in my dispatch of the 20th instant. I have the honour to be, &c.

WELLINGTON.

Return of killed, wounded, and missing, of the army under the command of his Excellency General Lord Viscount Wellington K.B. at Ciudad Rodrigo, between the 15th and the 19th days of January, 1812.

Total British loss between the 15th and 19th of January, 1812.—1 General staff, 5 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 8 serjeants, 1 drummer, 113 rank and file killed;—3 General staff, 1 Lieut.-Col. 2 Majors, 19 Captains, 28 Lieutenants, 5 Ensigns, 2 staff, 28 serjeants, 5 drummers, 403 rank and file, wounded; 5 rank and file missing.

Total Portuguese loss,—1 serjeant, 18 rank and file, killed;—1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 1 serjeant, 91 rank and file, wounded;—2 rank and file missing.

General total,—1 General staff, 5 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 9 serjeants, 1 drummer, 131 rank and file, killed;—3 General staff, 1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 2 Majors, 20 Captains, 31 Lieutenants, 5 Ensigns, 2 staff, 29 serjeants, 5 drummers,

5 drummers, 494 rank and file, wounded;—7 rank and file missing.

C. STEWART,
Maj.-Gen. and Adj.-Gen.

From the London Gazette, March 28.

[Transmitted by Sir E. Pellew.]

*His Majesty's Ship Alceste,
off Lissa, Dec. 11, 1811.*

His Majesty's ships under my orders having been driven from their anchorage before Luggina, by strong gales, had taken shelter in Lissa; when the telegraph on Whitby Hill signalized three suspicious sail South; Alceste, Active, and Unité, were warped out of Port St. George, the moment a strong E.N.E. wind would permit; and on the evening of the 28th ult. off the south end of Lissa, I met with Lieutenant M'Dougall, of his Majesty's ship Unité, who, with a judgment and zeal which does him infinite credit, had put back, when on his voyage to Malta in a neutral, to acquaint me he had seen three French Frigates, 40 miles to the southward. Every sail was carried on in chace, and at nine in the morning of the 29th the enemy were seen off the island of Augusta: he formed in line upon the larboard tack, and stood towards us for a short time; but finding his Majesty's ships bearing upon him under all sail in close line abreast, he bore up to the N. W. and set steering sails. At eleven the rear ship separated, and stood to the N. E.; I immediately detached the Unité after her, (and Captain Chamberlayne's report to me of the result I have the honour to inclose). At twenty minutes after one p. m. the Alceste

commenced action with the other two, by engaging the rear in passing to get at the Commodore, but an unlucky shot soon afterwards bringing down our maintopmast, we unavoidably dropped a little astern: cheers of 'Vive l'Empereur' resounded from both ships, they thought the day their own, not aware of what a second I had in my gallant friend Captain Gordon, who pushed the active up under every sail, and brought the sternmost to action, within pistol-shot; the headmost then shortened sail, tacked, and stood for the Alceste, (which, though disabled in her masts, I trust he experienced was by no means so at her guns), and after a warm conflict of two hours and twenty minutes, it ended by the French Commodore making sail to the Westward, which, from my crippled state, I was unable to prevent, and the other surrendering after being totally dismasted and five feet water in the hold; she proved to be the Pomone, of 44 guns, and three hundred and twenty-two men, commanded by Captain Rosamel, who fought his ship with a skill and bravery, that have obtained for him the respect and esteem of his opponents: the other was the Pauline, of similar force, commanded by Monsieur Monford Capitaine de Vaisseau, with a broad pendant; they were from Corfu, going to join the squadron at Trieste. The Alceste had twenty killed and wounded, Active thirty-two, and Pomone fifty; and it is with poignant regret I inform you, that Captain Gordon has lost a leg: but, thank God, he is doing well; his merits as an officer I need not dwell upon, they are known to his country; and he lives

lives in the hearts of all who have the happiness to know him. His first Lieutenant, Dashwood, lost his arm soon after he was wounded, and the ship was fought by Lieutenant Haye in a manner that reflects the highest honour upon him; his services before had frequently merited and obtained the high approbation and strong recommendation of his captain, who also speaks in the warmest praise of acting Lieutenant Moriarty, Mr. Lothian, master, Lieutenant Meers, royal marines, and every officer, seaman, and marine under his command. And though our success was not so complete as I trust it would have been, could the *Alceste* have taken up her intended position alongside *Pauline*, instead of that ship, from the fall of our top-mast, being enabled to manœuvre and choose her distance, I feel it my duty to state, that every officer and man here behaved most gallantly. I was most ably assisted on the quarter deck by my first Lieutenant, A. Wilson, and Mr. H. Moore, master; and the main-deck guns were admirably directed by Lieutenant James Montague and Mr. James Adair, acting in the place of Lieutenant Hickman, at Lissa, with the gun-boats. In justice to two very deserving officers (Lieut. Miller, royal marines, *Active*, and Lieut. Lloyd, royal marines, *Alceste*), it is necessary to mention they were ashore with most of their respective parties at Camesa Castle and Hoste's Islands, for the defence of Lissa, hourly threatened with an attack from the enemy, assembled in great force at Scisina. The *Kingfisher* hove in sight, and joined soon after the action; and Captain Tritton rendered essential service

by taking the prize in tow. Captain Bligh, of the *Acorn*, to whom I have intrusted the defence of Lissa in our absence, has had an arduous duty to perform; but no difficulties arise, when all are actuated by zeal for his Majesty's service; and the little squadron you have done me the honour to entrust me with, possess it in an eminent degree. *Unité* has just joined, after seeing the *Persanne* into Lissa; and Captain Chamberlayne, with his usual alacrity, has repaired his damage, and made the signal of being fit for service; and I am happy to say, this ship will in a few hours more be perfectly so also. I intend sending the *Active* with prizes and prisoners to Malta as soon as possible, which, from the state of her wounded officers and men, I am sure will meet your approbation. Inclosed are lists of the killed and wounded, and I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) MURRAY MAXWELL.
To Capt. Rowley, &c.

His Majesty's ship Unité,
Nov. 29, 1811.

Sir,—I am to acquaint you, that in obedience to your signal to chase this morning, I was enabled, by the superior sailing of his Majesty's ship under my command, to so far close immediately in the wake of the enemy's frigate at noon, as to exchange bow and stern chasers, but the very variable state of the weather from that time, the wind veering from the south to the east, and our opponent keeping directly astern, prevented my getting closer until near four o'clock, when, part of our broadside being fired at him, he returned his, and struck his colours. You will judge
my

my astonishment at her proving to be *La Persanne*, of 860 tons, 26 9-pounders, and a complement of 125 men and 65 troops, having on board 120 iron and a few brass ordnance; she was commanded by Mons. Joseph Endie Stotie, Capitaine de Frigate, whose masterly manoeuvres and persevering resistance for near four hours, reflect great credit on him. Our masts, yards, sails, and rigging, bear ample testimony to his galling fire. We have only one man wounded; the enemy two killed, and four wounded. The coolness and steady attention to my orders on the part of my First Lieutenant, Mr. W. Crabb, Lieutenant M'Dougall, Lieutenant Hotham, Mr. Gibson, lately promoted for his gallantry on board the *Active*, and the whole of the other officers and ship's company, could only be equalled by their extreme disappointment at discovering, at the enemy's surrender, we had been opposed to a vessel of inferior force. I inclose a list of our defects, and the name of the wounded man—(Thomas Tate, ordinary, severely)—I remain, &c.

(Signed)

E. H. CHAMBERLAYNE, Capt.
M. Maxwell, Captain of his
Majesty's ship *Alceste*, and
senior officer, &c.

List of the enemy's squadron engaged by his Majesty's ships Alceste, Active, and Unité, off Lissa, on the 29th of November, 1811.

La Pauline, M. Montfort, Captain, of 44 guns, 322 men, and 1,100 tons; escaped.

La Pomone, C. Rosamel, Capt. of 44 guns, 322 men, and 1,100 tons, taken. Has in her hold 42 iron and 9 brass guns, and 220 iron wheels for gun carriages.

La Persanne, M. Stotie, of 26 guns, 190 men, and 860 tons, taken. Is a store ship of 26 nine pounds guns (new); has about 130 iron and some brass guns in her hold.

(Signed)

MURRAY MAXWELL, Capt.

Admiralty-Office, March 31st.

Copy of a letter to Rear-Admiral Foley, commander-in-chief in the Downs:—

His Majesty's sloop, Rosario, off Dieppe, March 27th.

Sir;—It is with much satisfaction I have to acquaint you, that at half-past eight a. m. *Dieppe* bearing S. W. four or five miles, we observed an enemy's flotilla, consisting of twelve brigs and one lugger, standing along shore; and immediately made sail to cut off the leeward-most. The enemy, by signal from their commodore, formed into a line, and engaged us severally as we passed; but upon luffing up to cut off the sternmost, the whole bore up to support her, and endeavour to close with us. Finding them thus determined to support each other, and the small force of the *Rosario* not admitting my running the risk of being laid on board by several at once, I bore up to a brig we observed in the offing (and which proved to be the *Grifon*) and made the signal for an enemy. The moment she had answered, we hauled to the wind, and at forty minutes after twelve, began to harass the enemy's rear, who were then endeavouring to get into *Dieppe* under all sail; tacked and wore occasionally to close, receiving and returning the fire of the whole line each time; at half-past one, being far enough to windward, run into the body of the
the

the enemy, and by cutting away the running rigging of the two nearest, drove them on board each other, backed the maintopsail, and engaged them within musket shot till they were clear; then stood on and engaged another, whose main-mast and foretop-mast soon went by the board, when she immediately anchored; passed her, and drove the next in the line on shore; two more of their line yet remained to leeward; bore up and ran the nearest one on board (then not more than three quarters of a mile from the shore). So far the Rosario had acted alone, as the Griffon had not yet arrived within gunshot; bore away with prize beyond range of the batteries, and hailed the Griffon (then passing under a press of sail), to chase the remaining brig, and which service she performed in a very handsome manner, by running her on shore near St. Aubin, under a very heavy fire from the shore; seeing no probability of the Griffon being able to destroy the brig, made her signal to attack the enemy in the S.E., then anchoring close in shore. In the mean time we were getting the prisoners on board, and repairing the running rigging, which was much damaged. Capt. Trollope having closed with the enemy, run the Griffon in shore of one at anchor nearly in the center, and in the most gallant manner laid her on board, cut her cables, and stood out, under the fire of the batteries, and the whole of the other brigs: upon passing the Griffon, I found her too much disabled to immediately make sail again to the attack, but being determined to have another (and although we had nearly as many prisoners as our own sloop's company) I run the dismast-

ed one on board, which we found the enemy had deserted, but this circumstance the darkness of the night prevented our being enabled previously to discover, at which time the remaining seven of the flotilla were under weigh, getting into Dieppe harbour. I must beg leave to mention the very able assistance I received from the exertions of my first lieutenant, Mr. James Shaw, in boarding the enemy, and during the whole of the day in the arduous task of working the ship while engaging; and the conduct of the whole of the other officers and ship's company was such as to merit my warmest approbation. We have only one petty officer and four men wounded; the officer is Mr. Jonathan Widdicome Dyer, midshipman, whose unremitted exertions during the action, and activity in boarding (when he received the wound), together with his general good conduct, renders it my duty to recommend him:

The flotilla is the fourteenth division, commanded by Monsieur Sarue, capitaine de vaisseau, and commandant de division; sailed from Boulogne at ten p. m. the 26th instant, and intended going to Cherbourg; each brig has three long brass twenty-four pounders, and an 8-inch brass howitzer, with a complement of fifty men. When I consider this flotilla, united to batteries keeping up a constant fire of both shot and shells, and the very small force we had, I trust the having taken three, run two on shore, and much damaged the others, will show our zeal for the public service, and meet your approbation. I have the honour to be, &c.

B. HARVEY, Commander.
Rear-Admiral Foley, &c.

London

London Gazette Extraordinary.

Downing-street, April 24th.

Captain Canning, aid-de-camp to General the Earl of Wellington, arrived last night at this office, bringing dispatches, addressed by his lordship to the Earl of Liverpool, of which the following are extracts or copies:

Extract of a Dispatch from the Earl of Wellington, dated Camp before Badajoz, April 3rd.

We opened our fire on the 31st of March from 26 pieces of cannon, in the second parallel, to breach the face of the bastion at the south east angle of the fort called La Trinidad; and the flank of the bastion by which the face is defended called Santa Maria. The fire upon these has continued since with great effect.

The enemy made a sortie on the night of the 29th, upon the troops of General Hamilton's division, which invest the place on the right of the Guadiana, but were immediately driven in with loss. We lost no men on this occasion.

The movements of Lieut.-Gen. Sir T. Graham and of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Rowland Hill, have obliged the enemy to retire by the different roads towards Cordova, with the exception of a small body of infantry and cavalry, which remained at Zalamea de la Serena, in front of Belalcázar.

Marshal Soult broke up in front of Cadiz on the 23rd and 24th, and has marched upon Seville with all the troops which were there, with the exception of four thousand men.

I understand that he was to march from Seville again on the 30th or 31st.

I have not heard from Castiles since the 30th ultimo. One division of the army of Portugal, which had been in the province of Avila, had on that day arrived at Guadapero, within two leagues of Ciudad Rodrigo; and it was supposed that Marshal Marmont was on his march with other troops from the side of Salamanca.

The river Agueda was not fordable for troops on the 30th.

Copy of a Dispatch from the Earl of Wellington, dated Camp before Badajoz, April 7th.

My Lord;—My dispatch of the 3rd instant will have apprised your lordship of the state of the operations against Badajoz to that date, which were brought to a close on the night of the 6th, by the capture of the place by storm.

The fire continued during the 4th and 5th against the face of the bastion of La Trinidad, and the flank of the bastion of Santa Maria; and on the 4th, in the morning we opened another battery of six guns, in the second parallel, against the shoulder of the ravelin of St. Roque, and the wall in its gorge.

Practicable breaches were effected in the bastions above-mentioned, in the evening of the 5th; but as I had observed that the enemy had entrenched the bastion of La Trinidad, and the most formidable preparations were making for the defence as well of the breach in that bastion, as of that in the bastion of Santa Maria, I determined to delay the attack for another day, and to turn all the guns in the batteries in the second parallel on the curtain of La Trinidad, in hopes that by effecting a third breach, the troops would be enabled

bled to turn the the enemy's works for the defence of the other two, the attack of which would besides be connected by the troops destined to attack the breach in the curtain.

This breach was effected in the evening of the 6th, and the fire of the face of the bastion of Santa Maria and of the flank of the bastion of La Trinidad being overcome, I determined to attack the place that night.

I had kept in reserve, in the neighbourhood of this camp, the 5th division, under Lieut.-General Leith, which had left Castile only in the middle of March, and had but lately arrived in this part of the country, and I brought them up on that evening.

The plan for the attack was, that Lieut.-Gen. Picton should attack the castle at Badajoz by escalade with the 3rd division; and a detachment from the guard in the trenches, furnished that evening by the 4th division, under Major Wilson of the 48th regiment, should attack the ravelin of St. Roque upon his left; while the 4th division, under the Hon. Maj.-Gen. Colville, and the light division under Lieut.-Colonel Bernard should attack the breaches in the bastions of La Trinidad and of Santa Maria, and in the curtain by which they are connected. The 5th division were to occupy the ground which the 4th and light divisions had occupied during the siege, and Lieut.-General Leith was to make a false attack upon the outwork called Pardeleras, and another on the works of the fort towards the Guadiana, with the left brigade of the division, under Major-General Walker, which he was to turn into a real attack, if circumstances

should prove favourable; and Brigadier-Gen. Power, who invested the place with his Portuguese brigade on the right of the Guadiana, was directed to make false attacks on the tête-du-pont, the fort St. Christoval, and the new redoubt called Mon-cœur.

The attack was accordingly made at ten at night, Lieut.-Gen. Picton preceding, by a few minutes, the attack by the remainder of the troops.

Major-General Kempt led this attack, which went out from the right of the first parallel; he was unfortunately wounded in crossing the river Rivellas below the inundation; but notwithstanding this circumstance, and the obstinate resistance of the enemy, the castle was carried by escalade, and the 3rd division established in it at about half-past eleven.

While this was going on, Major Wilson, of the 48th regiment, carried the ravelin of St. Roque by the gorge, with a detachment of two hundred men of the guard in the trenches, and, with the assistance of Major Squire, of the engineers, established himself within that work.

The 4th and light divisions moved to the attack from the camp, along the left of the river Rivellas, and of the inundation. They were not perceived by the enemy till they reached the covered way, and the advanced guards of the two divisions descended without difficulty into the ditch, protected by the fire of the parties stationed on the glacis for that purpose; and they advanced to the assault of the breaches, led by their gallant officers, with the utmost intrepidity; but such was the nature of the obstacles prepared by the enemy at the

the top and behind the breaches, and so determined their resistance, that our troops could not establish themselves within the place. Many brave officers and soldiers were killed or wounded by explosions at the top of the breaches; others who succeeded to them were obliged to give way, having found it impossible to penetrate the obstacles which the enemy had prepared to impede their progress. These attempts were repeated till after twelve at night, when, finding that success was not to be attained, and that Lieut.-General Picton was established in the castle, I ordered that the 4th and light divisions might retire to the ground on which they had first assembled for the attack.

In the mean time Major-Gen. Leith had pushed forward Major-General Walker's brigade on the left, supported by the 38th regiment under Lieut.-Col. Nugent, and the 15th Portuguese regiment under Lieut.-Colonel De Regoa; and he had made a false attack upon the Pardeleras with the 8th Caçadores under Major Hill. Major-General Walker forced the barrier on the road of Olivença, and entered the covered way on the left of the bastion of St. Vicente, close to the Guadiana. He there descended into the ditch and escalated the face of the bastion of St. Vicente.

Lieut.-General Leith supported this attack by the 38th regiment and the 15th Portuguese regiment; and our troops being thus established in the castle which commands all the works of the town, and in the town; and the 4th and light divisions being formed again for the attack of the breaches, all re-

sistance ceased; and at daylight in the morning, the governor, Gen. Philippon, who had retired to fort St. Christoval, surrendered, together with General Veilande, and all the staff and the whole garrison.

I have not got accurate reports of the strength of the garrison, or of the number of the prisoners; but General Philippon has informed me, that it consisted of five thousand men at the commencement of the siege, of which twelve hundred were killed or wounded during the operations, besides those lost in the assault of the place. There were five French battalions, besides two of the regiments of Hesse D'Armstadt, and the artillery, engineers, &c.; and I understand there are four thousand prisoners.

It is impossible that any expressions of mine can convey to your lordship the sense which I entertain of the gallantry of the officers and troops upon this occasion.

The list of killed and wounded will show that the general officers, the staff attached to them, the commanding, and other officers of regiments, put themselves at the head of the attacks which they severally directed, and set the example of gallantry which was so well followed by their men.

The duties in the trenches were conducted successively by the Hon. Major-Gen. Colville, Major-Gen. Bowes, and Major-Gen. Kempt, under the superintendence of Lieut. General Picton. I have had occasion to mention all these officers during the course of the operations, and they all distinguished themselves, and were all wounded in the assault. I am particularly obliged to Lieut.-General Picton, for the manner in which he arranged

the attack of the castle, and for that in which he supported the attack, and established his troops in that important post.

Marshal Sir William Beresford assisted me in conducting the details of this siege, and I am much indebted to him for the cordial assistance which I received from him, as well during its progress, as in the last operation, which brought it to a termination.

Lieut.-General Leith's arrangements for the false attack upon the Pardeleras, and that under Major-General Walker, were likewise most judicious; and he availed himself of the circumstances of the moment, to push forward and support the attack under Major-Gen. Walker, in a manner highly creditable to him. The gallantry and conduct of Major-Gen. Walker, who was also wounded, and that of the officers and troops under his command, were highly conspicuous.

The arrangements made by Major-General Colville for the attack by the 4th division, were very judicious, and he led them to the attack in the most gallant manner.

In consequence of the absence, on account of sickness, of Maj.-gen. Vandeleur and Colonel Beckwith, Lieut.-Col. Barnard commanded the light division in the assault, and distinguished himself not less by the manner in which he made the arrangements for that operation, than by his personal gallantry in its execution.

I have also to mention Major-General Harvey, of the Portuguese service, commanding a brigade in the 4th division, and Brigadier-Gen. Champlémond, commanding the Portuguese brigade in the 3rd

division, as highly distinguished. Brigadier-Gen. Harvey was wounded in the storm.

Your lordship will see, in the list of killed and wounded, a list of the commanding officers of regiments. In Lieut.-Col. McLeod, of the 43rd regiment, who was killed in the breach, his Majesty has sustained the loss of an officer who was an ornament to his profession and was capable of rendering the most important services to his country. I must likewise mention Lieut.-Colonel Gibbs of the 52nd regiment, who was wounded, and Major O'Hara of the 95th, unfortunately killed in the breach; Lieut.-Colonel Elder of the 3rd, and Major Algeo of the 1st Caçadores. Lieut.-Colonel Harcourt, of the 40th, likewise wounded, was highly distinguished, and Lieut.-Col. Blakeney of the royal fusileers, Knight of the 27th, Erskine of the 48th, and Captain Leaky, who commanded the 23rd regiment, Lieut.-Col. Ellis having been wounded during the previous operations of the siege.

In the 5th division I must mention Major Hill, of the 8th Caçadores, who directed the false attack upon the fort Pardeleras. It was impossible for any men to behave better than these did. I must likewise mention Lieut.-Col. Brook of the 4th regiment, the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Carlton of the 44th, and Lieut.-Colonel Grey, of the 30th, who was unfortunately killed. The 2nd battalion of the 38th, under Lieut.-Colonel Nugent, and the 15th Portuguese regiment under Colonel De Regoa, likewise performed their part in a very exemplary manner.

The officers and troops in the
3rd

3rd division have distinguished themselves as usual in these operations. Lieut.-General Picton has reported to me particularly the conduct of Lieut.-Col. Williams of the 60th, Lieut.-Colonel Ridge of the 5th, who was unfortunately killed in the assault of the castle; Lieut.-Colonel Forbes of the 45th regiment, Lieut.-Col. Fitzgerald of the 60th, Lieut.-Cols. Trench and Mannors of the 74th regiment, Major Carr, of the 83rd, and the Hon. Major Pakenham, assistant-adjutant-general to the 3rd division.

He has likewise particularly reported the good conduct of Colonel Campbell of the 94th, commanding the Hon. Major-Gen. Colville's brigade during his absence in command of the 4th division, whose conduct I have so frequently had occasion to report to your lordship. The officers and men of the corps of engineers and artillery were equally distinguished during the operations of the siege, and in its close. Lieut.-Colonel Fletcher continued to direct the works (notwithstanding that he was wounded in the sortie made by the enemy on the 19th of March), which were carried on by Major Squire and Major Burgoyne, under his directions. The former established the detachments under Major Wilson in the ravelin of St. Roque on the night of the storm; the latter attended the attack of the 3rd division on the castle. I have likewise to report the good conduct of Major Jones, Capt. Nicholas, and Capt. Williams of the royal engineers.

Major Dickson conducted the details of the artillery service during this siege, as well as upon former occasions, under the general superintendence of Lieut.-Col. Framing-

ham, who since the absence of Major-General Borthwick, has commanded the artillery with this army. I cannot sufficiently applaud the officers and soldiers of the British and Portuguese artillery during this siege, particularly Lieut.-Colonel Robe, who opened the breaching batteries. Majors May and Holcombe, Captain Gardner and Lieut. Bouchier, of the royal artillery; Captain De Rettberg, of the King's German artillery; and Major Tulloh, of the Portuguese.

Adverting to the extent of the details of the ordnance department during this siege, to the difficulty of weather, &c. with which Major Dickson had to contend, I must mention him most particularly to your lordship.

The officers of the adjutant and quarter-master-general's departments rendered me every assistance on this occasion, as well as those of my personal staff; and I have to add, that I have received reports from the general officers commanding divisions, of the assistance they received from the officers of those departments attached to them, the greatest number of whom and of their personal staff are wounded.

In a former dispatch, I reported to your lordship the difficulties with which I had to contend, in consequence of the failure of the civil authorities of the province of Alentejo to perform their duty, and supply the army with means of transport; these difficulties have continued to exist; but I must do General Victoria, the governor of Elvas, the justice to report, that he and the troops under his command, have made every exertion,

and have done every thing in their power to contribute to our success.

Marshal Soult left Seville on the 1st instant with all the troops which he could collect in Andalusia; and he was in communication with the troops which had retired from Estramadura, under General Drouët, on the 3rd, and he arrived at Llerena on the 4th. I had intended to collect the army in proportion as Marshal Soult should advance; and I requested Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham to retire gradually, while Lieut.-General Sir Rowland Hill should do the same from Don Benito and the upper parts of the Guadiana.

I do not think it certain that Marshal Soult has made any decided movement from Llerena since the 4th, although he has patrolled forward with small detachments of cavalry, and the advanced guard of his infantry have been at Usagre.

None of the army of Portugal have moved to join him.

According to the last reports which I have received to the 4th instant on the frontiers of Castile, it appears that Marshal Marmont had established a body of troops between the Agueda and the Coa, and he had reconnoitred Almeida on the 3rd. Brigadier-Gen. Trant's division of militia had arrived on the Coa, and Brigadier-Gen. Wilson's division was following with the cavalry, and Lieut.-General the Conde D'Amarante was on his march, with a part of the corps under his command, towards the Douro.

I have the honour to enclose returns of the killed and wounded from the 31st of March, and in the assault of Badajoz, and a return of the ordnance, small arms, and

ammunition found in the place; I will send returns of provisions by the next dispatch.

This dispatch will be delivered to your lordship by my aid-de-camp, Captain Canning: whom I beg leave to recommend to your protection. He has likewise the colours of the garrison, and the colours of the Hesse D'Armstadt regiment, to be laid at the feet of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent. The French battalions in the garrison had no eagles.

(Signed) WELLINGTON.

Copy of a Dispatch from the Earl of Wellington, dated Camp at Badajoz, April 8.

My Lord,—It gives me great pleasure to inform your lordship, that our numerous wounded officers and soldiers are doing well.

I have had great reason to be satisfied with the attention paid to them by Mr. M'Gregor, the inspector-general of hospitals, and the medical gentlemen under his direction; and I trust that the loss to the service, upon this occasion, will not eventually be great.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WELLINGTON.

The Earl of Liverpool, &c.

Return of killed, wounded, and missing, of the army under the command of his Excellency General Arthur Earl of Wellington, K. B. at the Siege of Badajoz.

British loss from 3rd to 5th April, 1812—3 rank and file killed; 1 officer, 26 rank and file wounded.

British loss from 6th to 7th April, 1812,—51 officers, 40 serjeants, 557 rank and file killed; 212 officers, 153 serjeants, 12 drummers, 1,945 rank and file, wounded; 1 serjeant, 21 rank and file missing.

Total British loss—51 officers, 40 serjeants,

40 serjeants, 560 rank and file killed; 213 officers, 153 serjeants, 12 drummers, 1,971 rank and file wounded; 1 serjeant, 21 rank and file missing.

Portuguese loss from 3rd to 5th April, 1812—1 officer, 9 rank and file killed; 3 officers, 1 drummer, 12 rank and file wounded.

Portuguese loss from 6th to 7th April, 1812—8 officers, 6 serjeants, 1 drummer, 140 rank and file killed: 45 officers, 32 serjeants, 2 drummers, 466 rank and file wounded; 30 rank and file missing.

Total Portuguese loss—9 officers, 6 serjeants, 1 drummer, 149 rank and file killed; 48 officers, 32 serjeants, 3 drummers, 478 rank and file wounded; 30 rank and file missing.

British loss during the siege—60 officers, 45 serjeants, 715 rank and file wounded; 1 serjeant, 32 rank and file missing.

Portuguese loss during the siege—12 officers, 6 serjeants, 2 drummers, 195 rank and file killed; 55 officers, 38 serjeants, 3 drummers, 684 rank and file wounded; 30 rank and file missing.

Grand total from 18th March to 7th April, 1812, inclusive—72 officers, 51 serjeants, 2 drummers 910 rank and file killed; 308 officers, 216 serjeants, 17 drummers, 3,248 rank and file wounded; 1 serjeant, 62 rank and file missing.

From the London Gazette, Saturday, May 9.

Admiralty-office, May. 9.

[Transmitted by Sir Edw. Pellew.]

His Majesty's ship Victorious, Port St. George, Lissa, March, 3.

Sir,—On the 16th ultimo I arrived off the port of Venice; the

weather was very foggy at the time, and continued so till the 21st, which prevented me reconnoitring the port. At half past two o'clock p. m. on that day, a brig was seen E. N. S.; at three o'clock a large ship with two more brigs and two settees in the same direction; all sail was made in chase; at four o'clock I made the Weazle's signal to prepare for action; at this time I was convinced that the ship seen was one of the enemy's line of battle ships proceeding from Venice to the port of Pola, in Istria. The enemy were sailing in a line of battle, with the two gun-boats, and one brig a-head, the other two brigs in a line a-stern. At half-past two o'clock a. m. I perceived that one of the enemy's brigs dropped a-stern, and that the line of battle ship had shortened sail to allow her to close again. I hailed the Weazle. and ordered Captain Andrew to endeavour to pass the Victorious, and if possible, to bring the brigs a-stern of the commodore to action, in hopes of inducing him to shorten sail, which had the desired effect. At a quarter past four o'clock, his Majesty's brig Weazle commenced the action with the two brigs. At half-past four we commenced action at the distance of half pistol shot, with the line of battle ship, neither ships having fired a single shot until that time. At five we perceived a brig to blow up: at day-light I perceived the Weazle in chase of the brigs, the gun-boats not in sight. I recalled her as she did not appear to close with the chace. We were at this time in seven fathoms water off the Point of Grao, and I was fearful we might want assistance from her, in case either of the ships had got on shore
on

on the bank. Captain Andrew, on being recalled, placed his brig very judiciously on the bow of the line of battle ship, within pistol shot, and in that situation he gave her three broadsides. The enemy for nearly the last two hours had been rendered perfectly unmanageable, and had kept up a very slow fire, and that chiefly from two guns on the quarter-deck; her mizen mast fell over her side about a quarter before nine o'clock. At nine they hailed us, and said they had struck; I sent on board Mr. Peake, the first lieutenant, to take possession of her. I found the squadron we had engaged consisted of two gun-boats, the Mameluke brig of 10 guns, and Jena and Mercure of 18 guns each, with the Rivoli of 74 guns, bearing the broad pendant of Commo. Barre, the commander-in-chief of the enemy's forces in the Adriatic. From the length of the action, and the smoothness of the water, the loss of men and the damages on both sides, I am sorry to say, have been very great indeed, neither ship having been above half musket shot from each other during the whole of the action, which only ceased at intervals, when the ships were hid from each other by the fog and smoke, and were not even able to see the flashes of each other's guns.

I feel great satisfaction in saying that the conduct of Commo. Barre, during the whole of the action, convinced me I had to deal with a most gallant and brave man, and, in manœuvring his ship, a most experienced and skilful officer. He did not surrender his ship till nearly two hours after she was rendered unmanageable, and had 400 killed or wounded; his captain and most

of his officers either killed or wounded. By the returns you will perceive, sir, that our loss, too, has been very severe. I have to regret, as well as the service, the loss of two very fine young men, Lieutenants Thomas H. Griffiths and Robert S. Ashbridge, of the royal marines, who were mortally wounded early in the action, with many other brave and good men, both seamen and marines. The conduct of the officers has been throughout highly meritorious both during the action, and also in securing the masts of the ship, in the very bad weather we met before we gained the port of Lissa. Having received a contusion from a splinter early in the action, for some days afterwards I have been deprived nearly of my eye-sight; all which time the exertions by Mr. Peake, my senior lieutenant, prevented my inability from being of any detriment to his Majesty's service. The Rivoli, in crossing the Gulph of Fiume, lost her fore and main-masts; but by the exertions of Lieutenants Whyte and Coffin, who had charge of her, she was brought safe into the port of Lissa under jury-masts. I feel particularly indebted to Captain Andrew, of the Weazle, for his exertions during the action, and also for the assistance he gave to the Rivoli afterwards. I have sent enclosed a copy of his letter, reporting to me his conduct, and that of his officers and crew during the night of the action. He particularly mentions his senior lieutenant, whom he strongly recommends to the notice of the commander-in-chief. The numbers of wounded, and the severity of the wounds, have caused Mr. Baird, the surgeon, and Mr. O'Meara,

O'Meara, the only assistant on board, very great fatigue. The conduct of Mr. W. H. Gibbons and Mr. John J. Keeling, master's mates deserves notice. The conduct of Captain Stevens, of the royal marines, I cannot avoid mentioning, and that of Mr. Crawford the master was perfectly to my satisfaction. During the whole of this severe action not a single explosion took place on board, or a man hurt, either through carelessness or accident; both the officers and men, for their steady and cool conduct, deserve every credit. I have sent herewith the returns, as far as I have been able to procure, of the killed and wounded on board the Rivoli. I landed a great number of the wounded prisoners in Istria, having sent a flag of truce to the town of Pirang, to request the commandant of that port would send off boats to receive them, which accordingly he did. I have sent the remainder of them from this port by a schooner to Spalatro, in Dalmatia. When we commenced the action, the Victorious had only 506 persons actually on board, 60 of which were in the sick list, but most of the sick were able to assist in the action. The Rivoli had on board 863 persons at the commencement of the action.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JOHN TALBOT.

Captain of the Victorious, and senior officer of the upper part of the Adriatic.

To Charles Rowley, esq. Captain of the Eagle, and senior officer in the Adriatic.

His Majesty's sloop Weazle, Feb. 22, Cape Salvore, S. E. by E. distant 12 or 14 miles.

Sir,—In pursuance of your directions this morning at half-past two, ordering me a-head and to bring the enemy's brigs to action, I have the honour to inform you, that at a quarter past four a. m. I came up with two French brigs, one within half pistol-shot, which we immediately engaged, and after an action of 40 minutes, she blew up without doing us any damage. I am sorry we saved only three men from her, and those much bruised and wounded. She proves to have been the French brig Le Mercure, of 18 24-pounders carronades, commanded by a Lieutenant de Vaisseau. During the greater part of this time the other brig engaged us on our bow, but seeing the fate of her companion, and from the darkness of the morning, and our rigging being much cut, she made her escape. At day-light we observed this brig and another, the first about three miles a-head. At six o'clock made all sail in chase: answered the signal of recall; bore up. At eight o'clock came across the Rivoli's bows, within musket shot, and gave her a broadside, wore, and tacked as necessary to continue raking her; at nine she fired a gun to leeward, when we ceased firing. The whole of the afore-mentioned service, I am extremely happy to say, was performed without the loss of a man on my part, from the steady, determined, and cool, behaviour of every officer and man on board; and I most earnestly request you will be pleased to recommend to the commander-in-chief, Mr. George Elliot, my first lieutenant, and every other officer and man on board his Majesty's sloop,

sloop, which I have the honour to command. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JOHN ANDREW,
Commander.

To John Talbot, esq. Captain of
his Majesty's ship Victorious.

Admiralty-Office, May 30.

[Transmitted by Lord Keith.]

*Northumberland, off the Penmarks,
Wind S. S. W. light breeze, and
fine weather, May 24.*

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you, the object of the orders I received from you on the 12th instant, to proceed off L'Orient for the purpose of intercepting two French frigates and a brig lately seen at sea, has been accomplished, by their total destruction, at the entrance of that port, by his Majesty's ship under my command, (the Growler gun-brig being in company) under the circumstances I beg leave to relate to you. On Friday the 22nd instant, at a quarter after ten a. m. the N. W. point of the Isle Groa bearing from the Northumberland north by compass, ten miles distant, and the wind very light from W. by W. they were discovered in the N. W. crowding all sail before it for L'Orient. My first wish was to endeavour to cut them off to windward of the island, and a signal was made to the Growler (seven miles off in the S. W.) to chase; but finding I could not effect it, the Northumberland was pushed by every exertion round the S. E. end of Groa, and, by hauling to the wind as close as I could to leeward of it, I had the satisfaction of fetching

to windward of the harbour's mouth, before the enemy's ships reached it. Their commander seeing himself thus cut off, made a signal to his consorts, and hauled to the wind on the larboard tack to windward of Point Taleet, and they appeared to speak each other. I continued beating to windward between Groa and the continent to close with them, exposed to the batteries on both sides when I stood within their reach, which was unavoidable. The wind had by this time freshened considerably, and was about W. N. W.: at forty-nine minutes after two p. m. the enemy (in force as above described) bore up in close line a-head; and under every sail that could be set, favoured by the fresh wind, made a bold and determined attempt to run between me and the shore, under cover of the numerous batteries with which it is lined in that part. I placed the Northumberland to meet them as close as I could to the Point de Pierre Laye, with her head to the shore, and the maintop-sail shivering, and made dispositions for laying one of them along-side; but they hauled so very close round the point, following the direction of the coast to the eastward of it, that, in my ignorance of the depth of water so near the shore, I did not think it practicable consistent with the safety of his Majesty's ship (drawing near 25 feet water), to prosecute that plan, I therefore bore up, and steered parallel to them at the distance of about two cables' length, and opened a broadside on them, which was returned by a very animated and well-directed fire of round, grape, and other descriptions

tions of shot, supported by three batteries, for the space of twenty-one minutes, and was very destructive to our sails and rigging. My object during that time was, to prevent their hauling outside the dry dock named Le Graul; but in steering sufficiently close to it to leave them no room to pass between me and it, and at the same time to avoid running on it myself, the utmost difficulty and anxiety was produced by the cloud of smoke, which drifted a-head of the ship and totally obscured it. However, by the care and attention of Mr. Hugh Stewart, the master, the ship was carried within the distance of her own length on the south west side, in quarter-less seven fathoms, and the enemy were in consequence obliged, as their only alternative, to attempt passing within it, where there was not water enough, and they all grounded, under every sail, on the rocks between it and the shore. The sails and rigging of the Northumberland were so much damaged, that I was obliged to leave the enemy to the effects of the falling tide, it being only one quarter ebb, while I repaired the rigging, and shifted the foretop-sail, which was rendered entirely useless; working to windward during that time under what sail I could set, to prevent falling to leeward; in which interval, at five o'clock, the Growler joined, and fired on the enemy occasionally. At twenty-eight minutes after five, I anchored the Northumberland in six and a half fathoms water, Point de Pierre Laye bearing N. W. half N., the citadel of Port Louis E. three quarters E., and the rock named

Le Grand N. half E. two cables length distant, with her broadside bearing on the enemy's two frigates and a brig, at point-blank range, all of them having fallen over on their sides next the shore as the tide left them, and exposed their copper to us, and the main-masts of one frigate and the brig were gone; and from 34 minutes after five till 49 minutes past six (which was near the time of low water), a deliberate and careful fire was kept up on them, at which time, believing I had fully effected the object of my endeavours, the crews having quitted their vessels, all their bottoms being pierced by very many of our shot, so low down as to ensure their filling on the rising tide, and the leading frigate being completely in flames, communicated to the hull from a fire which broke out in her foretop, I got under sail. Three batteries fired at the ship during the whole time she was at anchor, and although the position was so far well chosen that she was out of the range of two of them, the other (to which the enemy's vessels were nearest) reached her, and did as much execution in the hull as all the fire she had been exposed to before. I directed the commander of the Growler to stand in and fire, to prevent the enemy from returning to their vessels after I had ceased. At 5 minutes before eight, the frigate on fire blew up with an awful explosion, leaving no remains of her visible. At the close of day I anchored for the night, out of reach of the batteries on both sides, Point Taleet bearing N. N. W. half W.; S. E. point of Groa S. S. W. half W. the enemy's vessels N. by E. At

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ten, the other frigate appeared to be on fire also (some smoke having been seen on board her from the time the firing ceased), and at half past 11, the flames burst forth from her ports and every part with unextinguishable fury, which unlooked-for event leaving me nothing more to attempt in the morning, the brig being quite on her beam ends, and very much damaged by our shot in every part of her bottom, even very near her keel, I weighed anchor at midnight, with a very light air from the northward, with the Growler in company, profiting by the brightness of the moon to get to sea; but it was so near calm, that I made very little progress, and therefore saw the frigate burning from head to stern all night, and explode at thirty-five minutes after two in the morning of yesterday, leaving a portion of her afterpart still burning till it was entirely consumed; and in the course of the day I had the satisfaction to see, from off the N. W. point of Groa, a third fire and explosion in the same spot, which could have been no other than the brig. During the time of firing on the enemy's vessels, a seaman, who states himself to be a native of Portugal, captured in the ship Harmony, of Lisbon, by the frigates, on the 22d of February, swam from one of them to the Northumberland, by whom I am informed their names were l'Ariane and l'Andromache, of 44 guns and 450 men each, and the Mameluke brig, of 18 guns, and 150 men; that they sailed from the Loire in the month of January, had been cruising in various parts of the Atlantic, and had destroyed 36 vessels of different nations

(Americans, Spaniards, Portuguese, and English), taking the most valuable parts of their cargoes on board the frigates (and they appeared very deep for ships so long at sea), and one vessel they sent as a cartel to England, with about 200 prisoners. I am happy to have now the gratifying duty to discharge of bearing testimony to the creditable conduct of every officer and man I had the honour to command on the occasion above related, whose zealous exertions in supporting the honour of his Majesty's naval power, and in humbling that of the enemy, were conspicuously displayed, without regard to the peculiar intricacy of the situation, or the risks and difficulties which appeared to interpose; and I hope the circumstances of his station may permit me to make particular report of the services of the senior lieutenant, John Banks, without prejudice to, or neglect of the other meritorious and deserving officers, who were all equally inspired with intrepidity, and possessed with confidence and coolness, which rendered that qualification the more valuable. But as the safety of his Majesty's ship, and the success of the operations which resulted in a navigation so narrow and difficult, with almost every description of danger to avoid, is attributable, next to Providence, to the ability with which she was steered and conducted under the direction of Mr. Stewart (the master), and the pilot, I should be wanting in my duty if I were to omit to represent to you, that nothing could exceed the firmness, good judgment, and skill of those officers whose experience on the coast was extremely beneficial to

to the service, and Mr. Stewart's counsels were of the greatest assistance to me. Lieutenant J. Weeks, commanding the Growler gun brig, made every effort that vessel was capable of to render me service, and showed a perfect readiness to execute the few directions I had occasion to give him.

The captain then reports the injury sustained by his ship, which was that of being damaged a little in the hull, but more in the masts, yards, and rigging; and concludes, —A line of battle ship, with sails bent, and top gallant yards, across, lay in the harbour of l'Orient, spectator of the operations of the day, at the entrance of it; but the wind did not serve till night for her coming to the support of her friends: every assistance, however, was afforded them of boats, men, &c. from the port, directed, as I apprehend, by the Admiral in person. I have the honour to be &c.

(Signed) H. HOTHAM, Capt.
Rear-Admiral Sir Harry Neale,
Bart. &c.

A list of killed and wounded on board his Majesty's ship, Northumberland, on the 22d day of May.

Killed—1 seaman and 1 private Marine.

Wounded—1 officer, 3 petty officers, 19 seamen, and 5 private marines; of whom 4 are dangerously, 10 severely, and 14 slightly.

*London Gazette Extraordinary,
Thursday, June 18, 1812.*

Downing-street, June 17.

Major Currie, Aide-de-camp to Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, arrived this evening at Lord

Bathurst's office with a dispatch, of which the following is an extract, addressed to the Earl of Liverpool by General the Earl of Wellington, dated Fuente Guinaldo, May 28, 1812:—

When I found that the enemy had retired from this frontier, on the 24th of April, I directed Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill to carry into execution the operations against the enemy's posts and establishments at the passage of the Tagus at Almaraz.

Owing to the necessary preparations for this expedition, Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill could not begin his march, with part of the 2d division of infantry, till the 12th inst. and he attained the objects of his expedition on the 19th, by taking by storm Forts Napoleon and Ragusa, and the têtes-du-pont, and other works, by which the enemy's bridge was guarded, by destroying those forts and works, and the enemy's bridge and establishments, and by taking their magazines, and 259 prisoners, and 18 pieces of cannon.

I have the honour to inclose Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill's report of this brilliant exploit; and I beg to draw your lordship's attention to the difficulties with which he had to contend, as well from the nature of the country, as from the works which the enemy had constructed, and to the ability and the characteristic qualities displayed by Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill in persevering in the line, and confining himself to the objects, chalked out by his instructions, notwithstanding the various obstacles opposed to his progress.

I have nothing to add to Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill's report,
of

of the conduct of the officers and troops under his command, excepting to express my concurrence in all he says in their praise. Too much cannot be said of the brave officers and troops who took by storm, without the assistance of cannon, such works as the enemy's forts on both banks of the Tagus, fully garrisoned, in good order, and defended by 18 pieces of artillery.

Your lordship is aware, that the road of Almaraz affords the only good military communication across the Tagus, and from the Tagus to the Guadiana, below Toledo. All the permanent bridges below the bridge of Arzobispo, have been destroyed during the war, by one or other of the belligerents, and the enemy have found it impossible to repair them. Their bridge, which Lieut.-Gen. Sir Rowland Hill has destroyed, was one of boats, and I doubt their having the means of replacing it. The communications from the bridges of Arzobispo and Talavera to the Guadiana, are very difficult, and cannot be deemed military communications for a large army. The result, then, of Lieut.-Gen. Hill's expedition, has been to cut off the shortest and best communication between the armies of the South and of Portugal.

Nearly about the time that the enemy's troops, reported in my last dispatch to have moved into the Condado de Niebla, marched from Seville, it is reported that another considerable detachment under Marshal Soult went towards the blockade of Cadiz, and it was expected that another attack was to be made upon Tariffa.

It appears, however, that the enemy received early intelligence

of Sir Rowland Hill's march. The troops under the command of General Drouet made a movement to their left, and arrived upon the Guadiana at Medellin on the 7th instant; and on the 18th a detachment of the cavalry under the command of the same General, drove in, as far as Ribera, the picquets of Lieutenant-General Sir William Erskine's division of cavalry, which had remained in lower Estremadura, with a part of the 2d division of infantry, and Lieutenant-General Hamilton's division of infantry. Marshal Soult likewise moved from the blockade of Cadiz towards Cordova; and the troops which had marched from Seville into the Condado de Niebla, returned to Seville nearly about the same time; but Lieut.-General Sir Rowland Hill had attained his object on the 19th, and had returned to Truxillo, and was beyond all risk of being attacked by a superior force on the 21st. The enemy's troops have retired into Cordova.

Since the accounts have been received of Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill's expedition, the enemy's troops have likewise been put in motion in Old and New Castile; the first division, under General Foy, and a division of the army of the center under Gen. D'Armagnac, crossed the Tagus, by the Bridge of Arzobispo, on the 21st, and have moved by the road of Deleytosa, to relieve or withdraw the post which still remained in the tower of Mirabete.

The whole of the army of Portugal have likewise made a movement to their left; the 2d division being on the Tagus, and Marshal Marmont's head quarters have been

been removed from Salamanca to Fontieros.

By a letter from Sir Howard Douglas, of the 24th instant, I learn, that the troops under General Bonnet, after having made two plundering excursions towards the frontiers of Galicia, had again entered the Asturias, and were on the 17th in possession of Oviedo, Gijon, and Grado.

In the mean time the troops under General Mendizabel, are in possession of the town of Burgos, the enemy still keeping the castle; and in all parts of the country the boldness and activity of the chiefs of Guerillas are increasing; and their operations against the enemy are becoming daily more important.

I forward this dispatch by Major Currie, Aide-de-Camp to Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, whom I beg leave to recommend to your Lordship's notice and protection.

Truxillo, May 21, 1812.

My Lord;—I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship, that your instructions relative to the capture and destruction of the enemy's works at Almaraz have been most fully carried into effect by a detachment of troops under my orders, which marched from Almandralejo on the 12th instant.

The bridge was, as your Lordship knows, protected by strong works thrown up by the French on both sides of the river, and further covered on the southern side by the castle and redoubts of Mirabete about a league off, commanding the pass of that name, through which runs the road to Madrid, being the only one passable for

carriages of any description by which the bridge can be approached.

The works on the left bank of the river were a tête-du-pont, built of masonry, and strongly entrenched; and on the high ground above it, a large and well-constructed fort, called Napoleon, with an interior entrenchment, and loop-holed tower in its center: this fort contained nine pieces of cannon, with a garrison of between four and five hundred men. There being also on the opposite side of the river, on a height immediately above the bridge, a very complete fort recently constructed, which flanked and added much to its defence.

On the morning of the 16th, the troops reached Jareicejo, and the same evening marched in three columns; the left column, commanded by Lieut.-Gen. Chowne (23th and 34th regiments under Col. Wilson, and the 6th Portuguese Caçadores), towards the castle of Mirabete; the right column, under Maj.-Gen. Howard (50th, 71st, and 92nd regiments), which I accompanied myself to a pass in the mountains, through which a most difficult and circuitous foot-path leads by the village of Romangordo to the bridge; the center column, under Major-General Long (6th and 18th Portuguese infantry, under Colonel Ashworth, and 13th Light Dragoons, with the artillery), advanced upon the high road to the pass of Mirabete.

The two flank columns were provided with ladders, and it was intended that either of them should proceed to escalate the forts against which they were directed, had circumstances proved favourable; the difficulties,

difficulties however, which each had to encounter on its march were such, that it was impossible for them to reach their respective points before day-break; I judged it best, therefore, as there was no longer a possibility of surprise, to defer the attack until we should be better acquainted with the nature and position of the works; and the troops bivouacked on the Leina.

I determined on endeavouring to penetrate to the bridge by the mountain path leading through the village of Romangordo, although, by that means, I should be deprived of the use of my artillery.

On the evening of the 18th, I moved with Major-General Howard's brigade, and the 6th Portuguese regiment, for the operation provided with scaling ladders, &c. Although the distance marched did not exceed five or six miles, the difficulties of the road were such, that with the united exertions of officers and men, the column could not be formed for the attack before daylight. Confiding, however, in the valour of the troops, I ordered the immediate assault of Fort Napoleon. My confidence was fully justified by the event.

The 1st battalion of the 50th, and one wing of the 71st regiment, regardless of the enemy's artillery and musketry, escalated the work in three places, nearly at the same time. The enemy seemed at first determined, and his fire was destructive; but the ardour of our troops was irresistible, and the garrison was driven at the point of the bayonet, through the several entrenchments of the tête-du-pont, across the bridge, which having been cut by those on the opposite

side of the river, many leaped into the river, and thus perished.

The impression made upon the enemy's troops was such, that the panic soon communicated itself to those on the right bank of the river, and Fort Ragusa was instantly abandoned, the garrison flying in the greatest confusion towards Naval Moral.

I cannot sufficiently praise the conduct of the 50th and 71st regiments, to whom the assault fell. The cool and steady manner in which they formed and advanced, and the intrepidity with which they mounted the ladders, and carried the place, was worthy of those distinguished corps, and the officers who led them.

Could the attack have been made before day, the 92nd regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron, and the remainder of the 71st regiment, under the Hon. Lieut.-Col. Cadogan, were to have escalated the tête-du-pont, and effected the destruction of the bridge, at the same time that the attack was made on Fort Napoleon. The impossibility of advancing deprived them of this opportunity of distinguishing themselves; but the share which they had in the operation, and the zeal which they displayed, entitles them to my warmest commendation; and I cannot avoid to mention the steadiness and good discipline of the 6th Portuguese infantry, and two companies of the 60th regiment, under Colonel Ashworth, which formed the reserve to this attack.

Our operations in this quarter were much favoured by a diversion made by Lieut.-General Chowne, with the troops under his orders, against the castle of Mirabete, which

which succeeded in inducing the enemy to believe that we should not attack the forts near the bridge, until we had formed the pass, and thus have made way for our artillery. The Lieutenant-General conducted this operation, as well as his former advance, entirely to my satisfaction. I regret much that the peculiar situation of Mirabete should have prevented my allowing the gallant corps under his orders to follow up an operation which they had commenced with much spirit, and were so anxious to complete.

I cannot too strongly express how much I am satisfied with the conduct of Major-General Howard through the whole of this operation, the most arduous part of which has fallen to his share; and particularly of the manner in which he led his brigade to the assault. He was ably assisted by his staff, Brigade Major Wemyss, of the 50th, and Lieutenant Battersby, of the 23rd Light Dragoons.

To Major-General Long I am also indebted for his assistance, although his column was not immediately engaged.

Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart and Major Harrison, of the 50th, and Major Cother, of the 71st, commanded the three attacks, and led them in a most gallant and spirited manner.

I have received the greatest assistance from Lieut.-Col. Dickson, of the Royal Artillery, whom, with a brigade of 24-pounders, a company of British and one of Portuguese artillery, your Lordship was pleased to put under my orders. Circumstances did not permit his guns being brought into play; but his exertions and those of his officers and men, during

the attack and destruction of the place, were unwearied. In the latter service, Lieut. Thiele, of the Royal German artillery, was blown up; and we have to regret in him a most gallant officer: he had particularly distinguished himself in the assault. Lieut. Wright, of the Royal Engineers, has also rendered me very essential service; he is a most intelligent, gallant, and meritorious officer; and I must not omit also to mention Lieut. Hillier, of the 29th regiment, whose knowledge of this part of the country proved of great assistance.

Your Lordship will observe, from the return of ordnance and stores which I have the honour to inclose, that Almaraz had been considered by the enemy in the light of a most important station; and I am happy to state, that its destruction has been most complete. The towers of masonry which were in Forts Napoleon and Ragusa have been entirely levelled; the ramparts of both in great measure destroyed, and the whole apparatus of the bridge, together with the work-shops, magazines, and every piece of timber which could be found, entirely destroyed.

A colour belonging to the 4th battalion of the Corps Etranger was taken by the 71st regiment, and I shall have the honour of forwarding it to your Lordship.

Our loss has not been severe, considering the circumstances under which the attack was made. I inclose a list of the killed and wounded. Captain Chandler, of the 50th regiment (the only officer killed in the assault) has, I am sorry to say, left a large family to deplore his loss. He was one of the first to mount the ladder, and fell

fell upon the parapet, after giving a distinguished example to his men.

I have had frequent occasions to mention to your Lordship, in terms of the highest praise, the conduct of Lieut.-Colonel Rooke, assistant Adjutant-General. During the whole period I have had a separate command in this country, that officer has been with me, and rendered most essential service to my corps; on the present expedition he has eminently distinguished himself, and I beg leave particularly to notice his conduct. Your Lordship is also aware of the merits of Lieutenant-Colonel Offeney, my assistant Quarter-Master-Gen. of whose valuable aid I have been deprived during the latter part of this expedition. Though labouring under severe illness, he accompanied me, to the serious detriment of his health, and until it was totally impracticable for him to proceed. Captain Thorn, deputy assistant Quarter-Master-General, succeeded to his duties; and I am indebted to him for his assistance, and also to Major Hill, and my personal staff.

The Marquis de Almeida, member of the junta of Estremadura, has done me the honour to accompany me, since I have been in the province: I have received from him, as well as from the people, the most ready and effectual assistance which it was in their power to bestow.

Major Currie, my Aide-de-camp, will deliver to your Lordship this dispatch, and the colour taken from the enemy, and will be able to give you any further particulars. I beg to recommend him to your Lordship.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. HILL, Lieut.-Gen.

I inclose a return of prisoners, in number 259, including the Governor, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and 15 officers. I also transmit a return of provisions in the Forts near the bridge, taken from one signed by the Chief of the French Commissariat on the 18th of May.

Return of killed and wounded of the army under the command of his Excellency General the Earl of Wellington, K. B. under the immediate orders of Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, K. B. at the storm and capture of Fort Napoleon, and the enemy's other works, in the neighbourhood of Almaraz, on the morning of the 19th of May, 1812.

Total British loss—1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 30 rank and file, killed; 2 Captains, 6 Lieutenants, 4 Ensigns, 10 serjeants, 1 drummer, 117 rank and file, wounded.

Total Portuguese loss—1 Ensign, 3 rank and file, wounded.

General Total—1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 30 rank and file, killed; 2 Captains, 6 Lieutenants, 5 Ensigns, 10 serjeants, 1 drummer, 120 rank and file, wounded.

From the London Gazette, Saturday, July 18.

Admiralty Office, July 18.

[Transmitted by Vice-Admiral Saumarez.]

His Majesty's ship, Dictator, in the Sleeve, July 7.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you, that yesterday evening, being off Mardoe with the brigs named

named in the margin,* the mast-heads of the enemy's squadron were seen over the rocks; and Captain Robilliard, of the Podargus, in the most handsome manner volunteered to lead the squadron in to attack them, he having a man on board acquainted with the place; and as neither the masters nor the pilots of either of the ships conceived themselves equal to the charge, I did not hesitate to accept his kind offer, well-knowing that the British flag would meet with nothing but honour in such hands. In the entrance of the passage the Podargus unfortunately took the ground; by which circumstance I was deprived of the valuable and gallant services of her commander during the remainder of the day, and was, in consequence, obliged to leave the Flamer to her assistance; but in Captain Weir, of the Calypso, I found every thing that could be wished for, which, in a great measure, made up for the loss which I had sustained in the Podargus and Flamer. By this time, half-past seven p. m. we had arrived within one mile of the enemy, who were running inside the rocks under a press of sail; the Calypso, which had also grounded for a short time, was now leading us through the passage, and both she and ourselves engaged with the squadron and numerous gun-boats. However, at half-past nine, I had the satisfaction, after sailing 12 miles through a passage in some places scarcely wide enough to admit of our studding sail booms being out, of running the Dictator's bow upon the land with her broadside towards the

enemy (within hail) as per margin,† who were anchored with springs on their cables, close together, and supported by gun-boats, in the small creek of Lyngoe, the Calypso most nobly following us up. In half an hour the frigate was literally battered to atoms, and the flames bursting forth from her hatchways; the brigs had also struck; and most of the gun-boats were completely beaten, and some sunk. The action had scarcely ceased, and the ship afloat, than we found ourselves again attacked by the gun-boats which had retreated on seeing the fate of their squadron, and were again collecting from all quarters; but Captain Weir, of the Calypso, having taken a most advantageous position, engaged them with the greatest gallantry and effect; indeed, I am at a loss how to express my approbation of the prompt exertion of this gallant and meritorious officer. The Podargus and Flamer in the mean time were warmly engaged with numerous batteries and gun-boats, both brigs being aground; but by the uncommon exertion and extreme gallantry of Captain Robilliard, and the officers and crews of the brigs, they at last got afloat very much cut up: on this occasion, Lieutenant England particularly distinguished himself. At three a. m. having got the Dictator, Calypso, and prize brigs in the fair way, we attempted to get out through the passages, when we were assailed by a division of gun-boats from behind the rocks, so situated that not a gun could be brought to bear on them from either

vessel;

* Podargus, Calypso, Flamer gun-brig.
VOL. LIV.

† Nayaden, Laaland, Samsoe, Kiel.
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vessel; in this situation both prize brigs grounded, and notwithstanding every exertion on the part of Lieutenant James Wilkie, of this ship, in the Laaland, who had extinguished a fire on board her which was burning with great fury, and Lieutenant Hooper, of the Calypso, in the Kiel, we had to abandon them complete wrecks, humanity forbidding our setting them on fire, owing to the number of wounded men they had on board.

I cannot conclude this letter without mentioning in terms of praise, Mr. William Buchanan, the first Lieutenant of this ship, a most gallant and excellent officer. From the nature of the attack, I have been obliged to lengthen my report, probably more than the service performed justifies; but in that case, I trust you will only attribute it to my anxiety to endeavour to do justice to a set of officers and men who, I am sure, have done their duty to admiration. The conduct of every individual on board his Majesty's ship I have the honour to command has been highly meritorious, and I cannot omit to add the names of Lieutenants Duell, Dutton, and Edwards, Captain Triscott, Lieutenant James Baker, and Lieutenant F. Macnamara, of the the royal marines, Mr. R. West, the master, and Mr. John Luckamlee, the purser. The skilful attention of Mr. Hay, the surgeon, to our own men as well as our enemies, has been beyond all praise; and he speaks in the highest terms of Mr. Saunderson, his assistant. Captains Robilliard and Weir, mention the conduct of all their officers and men to have been such as characterise Britons on

such occasions, and I am sure I can with great justice add my tribute of applause. Inclosed I have the honour to transmit a list of the killed, &c.; although I cannot help deploring the loss of so many brave men, it is much less than could be reasonably expected. The Danes acknowledge to have lost about three hundred killed and wounded; I rather suspect five. Our ships have suffered extremely in their hulls, masts, and rigging.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. STEWART,
Captain.

To Sir Jas. Saumarez, Bart. K.B.
Vice-Admiral and Commander
in Chief, &c.

Statement of the Enemy's Force.

Nayaden, of 38 guns, mounting 50 long 24-pounders on the main deck, and 300 men.

Laaland, of 20 guns, long 18-pounders, and 125 men.

Samsoe, of 18 guns, long 18-pounders, and 125 men.

Kiel, of 18 guns, long 18-pounders, and 125 men.

25 gun-boats, carrying each 2 long 18 or 24-pounders, and from 50 to 60 men.

Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing on board his Majesty's ships Dictator, Podargus, Calypso, and Flamer.

Dictator—5 killed; 16 severely, 8 slightly, wounded.

Podargus—4 severely, 5 slightly, wounded.

Calypso—3 killed; 1 severely wounded; 2 missing.

Flamer—1 killed; 1 severely wounded.

Total

Total—9 killed ; 26 severely,
13 slightly wounded ; 2 missing.

J. P. STEWART, Capt.

*London Gazette Extraordinary,
Sunday, August 16th.*

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-street, Aug. 16th.

Lord Clinton, aide-de-camp to the Earl of Wellington, arrived this morning at the War Department, with dispatches, addressed by his lordship to Earl Bathurst, dated the 21st, 24th, and 28th ult. of which the following are extracts :—

*Cabrerizos, near Salamanca,
July 21st, 1812.*

In the course of the 15th and 16th the enemy moved all their troops to the right of their position on the Douro, and their army was concentrated between Toro and San Roman.

A considerable body passed the Douro at Toro, on the evening of the 16th ; and I moved the allied army to their left on that night, with an intention to concentrate on the Guarena.

It was totally out of my power to prevent the enemy from passing the Douro at any point at which he might think it expedient, as he had in his possession all the bridges over that river, and many of the fords ; but he recrossed that river at Toro, in the night of the 16th, moved his whole army to Tordesillas, where he again crossed the Douro on the morning of the 17th, and assembled his army on that day at La Nava del Rey, having marched not less than ten leagues in the course of the 17th.

The 4th and light divisions of infantry, and Major-General Anson's brigades of cavalry, had marched to Castrejon on the night of the 16th, with a view to the assembly of the army on the Guarena, and were at Castrejon under the orders of Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton, on the 17th, not having been ordered to proceed further, in consequence of my knowledge that the enemy had not passed the Douro at Toro ; and there was not time to call them in between the hour at which I received the intelligence of the whole of the enemy's army being at La Nava, and daylight of the morning of the 18th. I therefore took measures to provide for their retreat and junction, by moving the 5th division to Tordesillas de la Orden, and Major-General Le Marchant's, Major-General Alten's, and Major-General Bock's brigades of cavalry to Alaejos.

The enemy attacked the troops at Castrejon, at the dawn of day of the 18th, and Sir Stapleton Cotton maintained the post, without suffering any loss, till the cavalry had joined him. Nearly about the same time the enemy turned by Alaejos the left flank of our position at Castrejon.

The troops retired in admirable order to Tordesillas de la Orden, having the enemy's whole army on their flank or in their rear ; and thence to the Guarena, which river they passed under the same circumstances, and effected their junction with the army.

The Guarena, which runs into the Douro, is formed by four streams, which unite about a league below Canizal, and the enemy took a strong position on the heights on the right of that river,

and I placed the 5th, 4th, and light divisions, on the opposite heights, and had directed the remainder of the army to cross the Upper Guarena at Vallesa, in consequence of the appearance of the enemy's intention to turn our right.

Shortly after his arrival, however, the enemy crossed the Guarena at Garteillo, below the junction of the streams, and manifested an intention to press upon our left, and to enter the valley of Canizal. Major-General Alten's brigade of cavalry, supported by the third dragoons, were already engaged with the enemy's cavalry, and had taken, among other prisoners, the French General Carrier; and I desired the honourable Lieutenant-General Cole to attack, with Major-General William Anson's and Brigadier-General Harvey's brigades of infantry (the latter under the command of Colonel Stubbs), the enemy's infantry which were supporting their cavalry. He immediately attacked and defeated them with the 27th and 40th regiments, which advanced to the charge with bayonets, Colonel Stubbs's Portuguese brigade supporting, and the enemy gave way; many were killed and wounded; and Major-General Alten's brigade of cavalry having pursued the fugitives, 240 prisoners were taken.

In these affairs Lieutenant-General the honourable G. L. Cole, Major-General V. Alten, Major-General William Anson, Lieutenant-Colonel Arentschildt of the 1st hussars, and Hervey of the 14th light dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Maclean of the 27th, and Major Archdall of the 40th, Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, commanding

the 11th, and Major de Azeredo, commanding the 23rd Portuguese Regiment, distinguished themselves.

The enemy did not make any further attempt on our left; but having reinforced their troops on that side, and withdrawn those which had moved to their left, I brought back our's from Vallesa.

On the 19th in the afternoon the enemy withdrew all the troops from their right, and marched to their left by Tarragona, apparently with an intention of turning our right. I crossed the Upper Guarena at Vallesa and El Olmo with the whole of the allied army in the course of that evening and night; and every preparation was made for the action, which was expected on the plain of Vallesa on the morning of the 20th.

But shortly after daylight the enemy made another movement in several columns to his left along the heights of the Guarena, which river he crossed below Santa la Piedra, and encamped last night at Babilafuente and Villamala; and the allied army made a correspondent movement to its right by Cantalpino, and encamped last night at Cabeza Velloso, the 6th division, and Major-General Alten's brigade of cavalry, being upon the Tormes at Aldea Lengua.

During these movements there have been occasional cannonades, but without loss on our side.

I have this morning moved the left of the army to the Tormes, where the whole are now concentrated; and I observe that the enemy have also moved towards the same river, near Huerta.

The enemy's object hitherto has been,

been, to cut off my communication with Salamanca and Ciudad Rodrigo.

The Enemy abandoned and destroyed the fort of Mirabete, on the Tagus, on the 11th instant; and the garrison marched to Madrid, to form part of the army of the center. They were reduced to five days provision.

I inclose a return of the killed and wounded on the 18th inst.

Flores de Avila, July 24.

My aid-de-camp, Captain Lord Clinton, will present to your lordship this account of a victory which the allied troops under my command gained in a general action fought near Salamanca on the evening of the 22nd inst., which I have been under the necessity of delaying to send till now, having been engaged ever since the action in the pursuit of the enemy's flying troops.

In my letter of the 21st I informed your lordship, that both armies were near the Tormes; and the enemy crossed that river with the greatest part of his troops in the afternoon by the fords between Alba de Tormes and Huerta, and moved by their left towards the roads leading to Ciudad Rodrigo.

The allied army, with the exception of the third division, and General D'Urban's cavalry, likewise crossed the Tormes in the evening by the bridge of Salamanca, and the fords in the neighbourhood; and I placed the troops in a position of which the right was upon one of the two heights called Des Arapiles, and the left on the Tormes below the ford of Santa Martha.

The third division and Brigadier-General D'Urban's cavalry were

left at Cabrerizes, on the right of the Tormes, as the enemy had still a large corps on the heights above Babilafuente, on the same side of the river; and I considered it not improbable, that finding our army prepared for them in the morning, on the left of the Tormes, they would alter their plan and manœuvre by the other bank.

In the course of the night of the 21st, I received intelligence, of the truth of which I could not doubt, that General Chauvel had arrived at Pollos on the 20th, with the cavalry and horse artillery of the army of the north, to join Marshal Marmont; and I was quite certain that these troops would join him on the 22nd or 23rd at the latest.

During the night of the 21st, the enemy had taken possession of the village of Calvarasa de Ariba and of the height near it, called Nuestra Senora de la Pena, our cavalry being in possession of Calvarassa de Abaxo; and shortly after daylight detachments from both armies attempted to obtain possession of the more distant from our right of the two hills called Dos Arapiles.

The enemy, however, succeeded; their detachment being the strongest, and having been concealed in the woods nearer the hill than we were, by which success they strengthened materially their own position, and had in their power increased means of annoying our's.

In the morning, the light troops of the 7th division, and the 4th Caçadores belonging to General Pack's brigade, were engaged with the enemy on the height called Nuestra Senora de la Pena; on which

which height they maintained themselves with the enemy throughout the day. The possession by the enemy, however, of the more distant of the Arapiles, rendered it necessary for me to extend the right of the army in potency to the heights behind the village of Arapiles, and to occupy that village with light infantry; and here I placed the 4th division under the command of the honourable Lieut.-General Cole; and although, from the variety of the enemy's movements, it was difficult to form a satisfactory judgment of his intentions, I considered that, upon the whole, his objects were upon the left of the Tormes. I therefore ordered the honourable Major-General Pakenham, who commanded the 3rd division in the absence of Lieutenant-General Picton, on account of ill health, to move across the Tormes with the troops under his command, including Brigadier General D'Urban's cavalry, and to place himself behind Aldea Tejada. Brigadier-General Bradford's brigade of Portuguese infantry, and Don Carlos D'Espana's infantry, having been moved up likewise to the neighbourhood of Las Torres, between the 3rd and 4th division.

After a variety of evolutions and movements, the enemy appears to have determined upon his plan about two in the afternoon; and under cover of a very heavy cannonade, which, however, did us but very little damage, he extended his left, and moved forward his troops, apparently with an intention to embrace, by the position of his troops, and by his fire, our post on that of the two Arapiles which we possessed, and from thence to

attack and break our line; or, at all events, to render difficult any movement of our's to our right.

The extension of his line to his left, however, and its advance upon our right, notwithstanding that his troops still occupied very strong ground, and his position was well defended by cannon, gave me an opportunity of attacking him, for which I had long been anxious. I reinforced our right with the 5th division under Lieut.-Gen. Leith, which I placed behind the village of Arapiles, on the right of the 4th division; and with the 6th and 7th divisions in reserve; and as soon as these troops had taken their stations, I ordered the honourable Major-General Pakenham to move forward with the 3rd division, and General D'Urban's cavalry, and two squadrons of the 14th light dragoons under Lieutenant-Colonel Hervey, in four columns, to turn the enemy's left on the heights; while Brigadier-General Bradford's brigade, the 5th division, under Lieutenant-General Leith, the 4th division, under the honourable Lieutenant-General Cole, and the cavalry, under Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton, should attack them in front, supported in reserve by the 6th division, under Major-Gen. Clinton, the 7th division, under Major-Gen. Hope, and Don Carlos D'Espana's Spanish division, and Brigadier-General Pack, should support the left of the 4th division, by attacking that of the Dos Arapiles, which the enemy held. The 1st and light divisions occupied the ground on the left, and were in reserve.

The attack upon the enemy's left was made in the manner above described, and completely succeeded. Major-General the honourable Edward

ward Pakenham formed the 3rd division across the enemy's flank, and overthrew every thing opposed to him. These troops were supported in the most gallant style by the Portuguese cavalry under Brigadier-General D'Urban, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hervey's squadrons of the 14th, who successfully defeated every attempt made by the enemy on the flank of the third division.

Brigadier-Gen. Bradford's brigade, the 5th and 4th divisions, and the cavalry under Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton, attacked the enemy in front, and drove his troops before them, from one height to another, bringing forward their right, so as to acquire strength upon the enemy's flank, in proportion to the advance. Brigadier-General Pack made a very gallant attack upon the Arapiles, in which, however, he did not succeed, excepting in diverting the attention of the enemy's corps placed upon it, from the troops under the command of Lieutenant-General Cole, in his advance.

The cavalry under Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton made a most gallant and successful charge against a body of the enemy's infantry, which they overthrew and cut to pieces. In this charge Major-General Le Marchant was killed at the head of his brigade; and I have to regret the loss of a most noble officer.

After the crest of the height was carried, one division of the enemy's infantry made a stand against the 4th division, which, after a severe contest, was obliged to give way, in consequence of the enemy having thrown some troops on the left of the 4th division, after the failure

of Brigadier-General Pack's attack upon the Arapiles, and the honourable Lieutenant-General Cole having been wounded.

Marshal Sir William Beresford, who happened to be on the spot, directed Brigadier-General Spry's brigade of the 5th division, which was in the second line, to change its front, and to bring its fire on the flank of the enemy's division; and, I am sorry to add, that while engaged in this service, he received a wound, which I am apprehensive will deprive me of the benefit of his counsel and assistance for some time. Nearly about the same time, Lieutenant-General Leith received a wound, which unfortunately obliged him to quit the field. I ordered up the 6th division under Major-General Clinton, to relieve the 4th, and the battle was soon restored to its former success.

The enemy's right, however, reinforced by the troops which had fled from his left, and by those which had now retired from the Arapiles, still continued to resist; and I ordered the 1st and light divisions, and Colonel Stubbs's Portuguese brigade of the 4th division, which was re-formed, and Major-General William Anson's brigade, likewise of the 4th division, to turn the right, while the 6th division, supported by the 3rd and 5th, attacked the front. It was dark before this point was carried by the 6th division, and the enemy fled through the woods towards the Tormes. I pursued them with the 1st and light divisions, and Major-General William Anson's brigade of the 4th division, and some squadrons of cavalry under Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton, as long as we could

could find any of them together, directing our march upon Huerta and the fords of the Tormes, by which the enemy had passed on their advance; but the darkness of the night was highly advantageous to the enemy; many of whom escaped under its cover, who must otherwise have been in our hands.

I am sorry to report, that owing to this same cause, Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton was unfortunately wounded by one of our own centries, after he had halted.

We renewed the pursuit at break of day in the morning, with the same troops, and Major-General Bock's and Major-General Anson's brigades of cavalry, which joined during the night; and having crossed the Tormes, we came up with the enemy's rear-guard of cavalry and infantry, near La Serna; they were immediately attacked by the two brigades of dragoons, and the cavalry fled, leaving the infantry to their fate. I have never witnessed a more gallant charge than was made on the enemy's infantry by the heavy brigade of the King's German Legion, under Major-General Bock, which was completely successful, and the whole body of infantry, consisting of three battalions of the enemy's first division, were made prisoners.

The pursuit was afterwards continued as far as Penaranda last night; and our troops are still following the flying enemy. Their head-quarters were in this town, not less than ten leagues from the field of battle, for a few hours last night; and they are now considerably advanced on the road towards Valladolid by Arevalo. They were joined yesterday on their retreat by the cavalry and artillery

of the army of the North, which have arrived at too late a period, it is to be hoped, to be of much use to them.

It is impossible to form a conjecture of the amount of the enemy's loss in this action; but from all reports it is very considerable. We have taken from them eleven pieces of cannon, several ammunition waggons, two eagles, and six colours; and one general, three colonels, three lieutenant-colonels, 130 officers of inferior rank, and between six and seven thousand soldiers are prisoners; and our detachments are sending in more every moment. The number of dead on the field is very large.

I am informed that Marshal Marmont is badly wounded, and has lost one of his arms; and that four general officers have been killed, and several wounded.

Such an advantage could not have been acquired without material loss on our side; but it certainly has not been of a magnitude to distress the army or to cripple its operations.

I have great pleasure in reporting to your lordship, that, throughout this trying day, of which I have related the events, I had every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the general officers and troops.

The relation which I have written of its events will give a general idea of the share which each individual had in them; and I cannot say too much in praise of the conduct of every individual in his station.

I am much indebted to Marshal Sir Wm. Beresford for his friendly counsel and assistance, both previous

vicious to and during the action; to Lieutenant-Generals Sir Stapleton Cotton, Leith, and Cole, and Major-Generals Clinton, and the Hon. Edward Pakenham, for the manner in which they led the divisions of cavalry and infantry under their command respectively; to Major-Gen. Hulse, commanding a brigade in the sixth division; Major-General G. Anson, commanding a brigade of cavalry; Col. Hinde; Colonel the Hon. Wm. Ponsonby, commanding Major-General Le Marchant's brigade, after the fall of that officer; to Major-Gen. William Anson, commanding a brigade in the 4th division; Major-Gen. Pringle, commanding a brigade in the fifth division, and the division after Lieut.-General Leith was wounded; Brigadier-Gen. Bradford, Brigadier-General Spry, Colonel Stubbs, and Brigadier-General Power of the Portuguese service; likewise to Lieut.-Colonel Campbell of the 94th, commanding a brigade in the 3rd division; Lieut.-Col. Williams, of the 60th foot; Lieut.-Colonel Wallace, of the 88th, commanding a brigade in the 3rd division; Lieut.-Colonel Ellis, of the 23rd, commanding General the Hon. Edw. Pakenham's brigade in the 4th division, during his absence in the command of the 3rd division; the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Greville, of the 38th regiment, commanding Major-General Hay's brigade in the 5th division during his absence on leave; Brigadier-General Pack; Brigadier-General the Conde de Rezendi, of the Portuguese service; Colonel Douglas, of the 8th Portuguese regiments; Lieut.-Colonel the Conde de Ficalho of the same regiment; and Lieutenant-Colonel

Bingham, of the 53rd regiment; likewise to Brigadier-Gen. d'Urban, and Lieut.-Colonel Hervey, of the 14th light dragoons; Colonel Lord Edward Somerset, commanding the 4th dragoons; and Lieut.-Col. the Hon. Frederick Ponsonby, commanding the 12th light dragoons.

I must also mention Lieut.-Col. Woodford, commanding the light battalion of the brigade of guards, who, supported by two companies of the fusileers, under the command of Captain Crowder, maintained the village of Arapiles against all the efforts of the enemy, previous to the attack upon their position by our troops.

In a case in which the conduct of all has been conspicuously good, I regret that the necessary limits of a dispatch prevent me from drawing your lordship's notice to the conduct of a larger number of individuals; but I can assure your lordship, that there was no officer of corps engaged in this action, who did not perform his duty by his sovereign and his country.

The royal and German artillery, under Lieut.-Colonel Framingham, distinguished themselves by the accuracy of their fire wherever it was possible to use them; and they advanced to the attack of the enemy's position with the same gallantry as the other troops.

I am particularly indebted to Lieut.-Colonel De Lancy, the deputy quarter-master-general, the head of the department present in the absence of the quarter-master-general, and to the officers of that department, and of the staff corps, for the assistance I received from them, particularly the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Dundas, and Lieut.-Col. Sturgeon of the latter, and Major Scovell

Scovell of the former; and to Lieut.-Colonel Waters, at present at the head of the adjutant-general's department, and to the officers of that department, as well at head-quarters as with the several divisions of the army; and Lieut.-Colonel Lord Fitzroy Somerset, and the officers of my personal staff. Among the latter I particularly request your lordship to draw the attention of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to his Serene Highness the Hereditary Prince of Orange, whose conduct in the field, as well as upon every other occasion, entitles him to my highest commendation, and has acquired for him the respect and regard of the whole army.

I have had every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the Mariscal del Campo Don Carlos d'Espagna, and of Brigadier Don Julian Sanchez, and with that of the troops under their command respectively; and with that of the Mariscal del Campo Don Miguel Alava, and of Brigadier Don Joseph O'Lawler, employed with this army by the Spanish government, from whom, and from the Spanish authorities, and people in general, I received every assistance I could expect.

It is but justice likewise to draw your lordship's attention, upon this occasion, to the merits of the officers of the civil departments of the army. Notwithstanding the increased distance of our operations from our magazines, and that the country is completely exhausted, we have hitherto wanted nothing, owing to the diligence and attention of commissary-general, Mr. Bisset, and the officers of the department under his direction.

I have likewise to mention that by the attention and ability of Doctor Mac Gregor, and of the officers of the department under his charge, our wounded as well as those of the enemy left in our hands have been well taken care of; and I hope that many of these valuable men will be saved to the service.

Captain Lord Clinton will have the honour of laying at the feet of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the Eagles and colours taken from the enemy in this action.

I inclose a return of the killed and wounded.

Abstract of Killed, Wounded, and Missing of the Allied Army, under the command of General the Earl of Wellington, in the Battle fought near Salamanca, on the 22d day of July, 1812.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
British	388	2714	74
Portuguese	304	1552	182
Spanish	2	4	—
Total	694	4270	256

*London Gazette Extraordinary,
Friday, Sept. 4.*

Downing-street, Sept. 4.

Major Burgh, aid-de-camp to the Marquis of Wellington, has this day arrived at Lord Bathurst's office with dispatches addressed to his lordship by Lord Wellington, dated Madrid, the 13th and 15th ultimo, of which the following are extracts:—

Madrid, August 13.

Having found that the army under Marshal Marmont continued their retreat from Burgos, in a state not likely to take the field again for some time, I determined
to

to bring Joseph Buonaparté to a general action, or force him to quit Madrid.

Accordingly I moved from Cuellar on the 6th instant. We arrived at Segovia on the 7th, and at St. Ildefonso on the 8th, where I halted one day, to allow the right of the army more time to come up.

No opposition was made to the passage of the troops through the mountains: and Brig.-Gen. D'Urban, with the Portuguese cavalry, and 1st light battalion of the King's German, and Captain M'Donald's troop of horse artillery, had been through the Guadarama pass since the 9th. He moved forward on the morning of the 11th from the neighbourhood of Galapagas, and supported by the heavy cavalry of the King's German Legion from Torrelodones, he drove in the French cavalry, about two thousand in number, and placed himself at Majalahonda, with the Portuguese cavalry and Captain M'Donald's troop, and the cavalry and light infantry of the King's German Legion at Las Royas, about three quarters of a mile distant.

The enemy's cavalry, which had been driven off in the morning, and had moved towards Naval Carnero, returned about five in the afternoon; and Brigadier-Gen. D'Urban having formed the Portuguese cavalry in front of Majalahonda, supported by the horse artillery, ordered the cavalry to charge the enemy's leading squadrons, which appeared too far advanced to be supported by their main body. The Portuguese cavalry advanced to the attack, but unfortunately turned about before

they reached the enemy; and they fled through the village of Majalahonda, and back upon the German dragoons leaving behind them, unprotected and unsupported, those guns of Captain M'Donald's troop, which had been moved forward to co-operate with the cavalry. By the activity of the officers and soldiers of Captain M'Donald's troop, the guns were, however, moved off; but owing to the unfavourable nature of the ground over which they were moved, the carriage of one was broken, and two others were overturned; and these three guns fell into the enemy's hands.

The Portuguese dragoons having fled through Majalahonda, were rallied and reformed upon the heavy dragoons of the King's German Legion, which were formed between that village and Las Royas. The German cavalry charged the enemy, although under many disadvantages, and stopped their further progress; but I am sorry to say, that they suffered considerable loss, and that Colonel Jonqueires, who commanded the brigade, was taken prisoner. The left of the army was about two miles and an half distant, at the Puente de Ratamar, on the Guadarama river; and Colonel Ponsonby's brigade of cavalry, and a brigade of infantry of the 7th division, having moved forward to the support of the troops in advance, the enemy retired upon Majalahonda as soon as they observed these troops; and night having come on, they retired upon Alcorcon, leaving our guns at Majalahonda.

I am happy to report that the officers of the Portuguese cavalry behaved remarkably well, and showed

showed a good example to their men, particularly the Visconde de Barbacena, who was taken prisoner. The conduct of the brave German cavalry was, I understand, excellent, as was that of Captain M'Donald's troop of horse artillery. The light infantry battalion was not engaged.

The army moved forward yesterday morning, and its left took possession of the city of Madrid, Joseph Buonaparté having retired with the army of the center by the roads of Toledo and Aranjuez, leaving a garrison in the Retiro.

It is impossible to describe the joy manifested by the inhabitants of Madrid upon our arrival; and I hope that the prevalence of the same sentiments of detestation of the French yoke, and of a strong desire to secure the independence of their country, which first induced them to set the example of resistance to the usurper, will induce them to make exertions in the cause of their country, which will be more efficacious than those formerly made.

I have not yet heard that Astorga has fallen; but the garrison which the enemy left in Tordesillas, about two hundred and sixty in number, surrendered to General Santocildes on the 5th instant.

I have received no further reports of the situation of General Ballasteros since the 21st of July. I have letters from General Joseph O'Donnell and General Roche, of the 26th July; and the army of Murcia, under the command of the former, was defeated by General D'Harispe on the 21st of July. It appears that the Spanish troops moved forward to attack General D'Harispe's posts at Castalla and at

Ybi; those which attacked the former were repulsed with the loss of two thousand men and two pieces of cannon; those which attacked the latter, under the command of General Roche, conducted themselves remarkably well, and covered the retreat of the troops under General O'Donnell, and afterwards effected their own retreat in good order, to Alicante.

Madrid, August 15.

I have the pleasure to inform your lordship, that the garrison of the Retiro surrendered by capitulation yesterday; and I have now the honour to inclose a translation of the capitulation.

We invested the place completely on the evening of the 13th; and in the night, detachments of the 7th division of infantry under the command of Major-General Hope, and of the 3rd division of infantry, under the command of Major-General the Hon. E. Pakenham drove in the enemy's posts from the Prado and the Botanical Garden, and the works which they had constructed outside of the park-wall; and having broken through the wall in different places, they were established in the palace of the Retiro, and close to the exterior of the enemy's works, inclosing the building called La China.

The troops were preparing in the morning to attack those works, preparatory to the arrangements to be adopted for the attack of the interior line and building, when the governor sent out an officer to desire to capitulate, and I granted him the honours of war, the baggage of the officers and soldiers of the garrison, &c. as specified in the inclosed agreement.

I inclose

I inclose a return of the strength of the garrison, which marched out yesterday, at four o'clock, on their road to Ciudad Rodrigo. We have found in the place one hundred and eighty-nine pieces of brass ordnance, in excellent condition; nine hundred barrels of powder; twenty thousand stand of arms; and considerable magazines of clothing, provisions, and ammunition.

We have likewise found the eagles of the 13th and 51st regiments, which I forward to England, to be presented to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, by my aid-de-camp, Major Burgh.

I see, by a letter from General Ballasteros to Lieut.-General Sir Rowland Hill of the 29th of July, that he had been in Malaga on the 14th of that month, after an engagement with General Laval, near Coin. General Ballasteros was at Grazelena on the 29th. I have a letter from Lieut.-General Sir Rowland Hill of the 8th inst.; and although General Drouet had been in movement for three days, it does not appear that his movements are of any importance.

I inclose returns of the killed, wounded, and missing, in the affair at Majalahonda, on the 11th instant, and of the loss in the attack of the works of the Retiro.

This dispatch will be delivered by my aid-de-camp Major Burgh, who will be able to explain any further circumstances relating to our situation; and I beg leave to recommend him to your lordship's protection.

P. S. Since writing this dispatch, I have received a letter of the 10th instant, from General Maitland, from Alicante, in which that officer

informs me that he had on that day landed at that place.

TRANSLATION.

Capitulation proposed by General the Earl of Wellington, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Army, and accepted by Colonel La Fond, Commandant of the Fort of La China, 14th August, 1812.

Article 1.—The garrison shall march out of the fort with the honours of war, and shall lay down their arms on the glacis.

Art. 2.—The garrison, and persons of every description in the fort, shall be prisoners of war.

Art. 3.—The officers shall be allowed to retain their swords, their baggage, and their horses, according to the number allowed them by the regulations of the French army; and the soldiers shall keep their knapsacks.

Art. 4.—The magazines of the fort of every description, shall be delivered to the officers of the respective departments, and the French commandants of artillery and of engineers shall furnish lists of the contents of each depot. The plans of the fort shall also be delivered to the commanding officer of the British engineers.

Art. 5.—This capitulation shall take place at four o'clock in the afternoon, and the gates of the fort shall be occupied by the troops of the allied army as soon as this capitulation is ratified.

Signed on the part of General the Earl of Wellington.

FITZROY SOMERSET,
Lieut. Col. and Mil. Sec.

Ratified. WELLINGTON.

Signed on the part of Colonel La Fond,

R. DE LA BRUNE.

This

This capitulation is ratified by the Colonel commanding the Fort of La China.

(Signed) LA FOND.

Return of Prisoners of War, taken at the Fort de la China, in the Retiro, and in the General Hospital la Atocha, on the 14th of August, 1812.

Staff—1 colonel, 2 captains, 2 subalterns, 7 staff, 3 civil officers, 16 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file.

Artillery—1 lieutenant-colonel, 8 captains, 10 subalterns, 355 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file, 46 horses and mules.

Engineers—1 lieutenant-colonel, 2 captains, 1 subaltern, 70 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file.

Detachments of several regiments of infantry; forming the garrison—1 colonel, 2 lieutenant-colonels, 9 captains, 19 subalterns, 1,450 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file.

Independent garrison company—1 captain, 3 subalterns, 91 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file.

Total taken at the fort—2 colonels, 4 lieutenant-colonels, 22 captains, 35 subalterns, 7 staff, 3 civil officers, 1,982 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file, 46 horses and mules.

Staff—12 civil officers, 1 rank and file.

Sick and convalescents—1 captain, 5 subalterns, 4 civil officers, 428 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file.

Total taken at the general hospital—1 captain, 5 subalterns, 16 civil officers, 429 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file.

General total taken 2,506.

N. B. Besides the above number, 6 rank and file British, and 6 officers, and 144 rank and file, Spaniards, were retaken in the fort of La China.

JOHN WATERS.
Lieut.-Col. and A. A. G.

Supplement to the London Gazette, of Tuesday, Sept. 22, 1812.

[Published on Wednesday, September 23.]

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-street, Sept. 23.

A dispatch of which the following is a copy, has been this day received at Earl Bathurst's office, addressed to his lordship by Major-General Cooke, dated Cadiz, Aug. 30, 1812:—

Cadiz, Aug. 30.

My Lord,—Since my letter of yesterday's date, reporting the entry into Seville of the allied corps under General La Cruz and Colonel Skerrett, I have received a dispatch from the latter, of which I transmit a copy herewith, and a return of the killed and wounded of the British detachment.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEO. COOKE,
Major-General.

Earl Bathurst, &c. &c.

Seville, Aug. 23.

Sir,—I have the honour to report the movements of the detachment under my orders since the date of my last; the result of which,—the capture of the city of Seville by assault, defended by eight French battalions, and two regiments of dragoons, entrenched,—will, I trust, be considered as honourable to the allied arms and serviceable to the cause of Spain.

On

On the 24th instant, General Cruz Morgeon, commanding the Spanish troops, and myself, judged it advisable to make a forward movement on Seville; for this purpose it was advisable to force the enemy's corps of observation, of 350 cavalry, and 200 infantry, at St. Lucar La Mayor. I marched from Manzanilla with 800 troops, composed of the 1st regiment of guards, the 87th, and the Portuguese regiment, Brigadier-General Downe, accompanied with 600 Spanish troops. The Spanish column attacked on the right, and the British and Portuguese on the left. The French were driven through the streets with precipitation, leaving some killed, wounded, and prisoners. We took post at San Lucar without the loss of a man.

On the 26th instant, General Cruz and myself having judged that it would be attended with the most beneficial effects, both on the public opinion, and in saving the city from being plundered, if the French could be precipitated in their retreat from Seville, the allied troops, in consequence, marched for this purpose, and arrived at the heights of Castillejos de la Cuesta, immediately above Seville, on the morning of the 27th, at six o'clock.

The Spanish troops formed our advance. The French advance was driven in; the cavalry retired, leaving the infantry in the plain, which last were charged by the Spanish cavalry, who made many prisoners.

The Spanish troops attacked a redoubt on our left, and lost a good many men. The columns advanced into the plain, by which movement this redoubt was turned, and

its communication cut off; the Spanish troops under Gen. Cruz took the right, and made a detour to arrive and attack on that flank of Triana (the suburbs of Seville). I ordered the redoubt to be masked by a detachment of the 20th Portuguese regiment, and advanced a field piece with some troops, to keep in check the enemy's fire at one of the gates of the city, opposite to us; and after giving sufficient time for the Spanish column to arrive, the British and Portuguese troops advanced to the attack in front: the cavalry and artillery advanced at a gallop, supported by the grenadiers of the guards, and the infantry following.

The enemy abandoned the gate: we entered the suburbs, and advanced near to the bridge of Seville with as much rapidity as possible, in hopes of preventing its destruction, which would have rendered it extremely difficult for us to succeed. We were checked by fire of grape-shot and musketry at the turning of the street. The grenadiers of the guards advanced to our support, and drove every thing before them. At this moment part of the Spanish column arrived; we advanced to the bridge under a heavy fire; Captain Cadoux of the 95th, with great judgment made a flank movement on our left; Captain Roberts, of the artillery, brought up with rapidity two guns; a heavy fire of cannon and musketry was soon brought to bear on the enemy, who were driven from their position on the other side of the river, and from the bridge, which they had only in part destroyed. The grenadiers of the guards, and some Spanish troops, led the columns that

that crossed the bridge. A general rout ensued, and the enemy were driven through the streets, which were strewed with their dead, and pursued at all points, leaving behind them valuable captures of horses, baggage, and money.

It is difficult for me to express the joy of the people of Seville. The inhabitants, under the fire of the French, brought planks to lay across the bridge; and their acclamations and vociferous marks of joy, added to the immense crowd, rendered it extremely difficult for the officers to advance through the streets with their columns.

The vast extent of this city, the exhausted state of the troops who had advanced in double quick time for three miles, and the want of cavalry, rendered it impossible to continue the pursuit beyond the town. Such was the rapidity of our attack, that this victory over a French division, and the passage of a bridge which the enemy had materially destroyed, with his infantry and artillery, formed on the banks of the river, was achieved with a loss that appears almost incredible.

I have only to regret the loss of 1 officer, Lieut. Brett, royal artillery, who was killed, gallantly fighting his gun, at the bridge. The intrepidity of this valuable officer was observed by the whole detachment.

The loss of the enemy must have been very great. We have taken several officers, and, I believe, near two hundred prisoners.

The conduct of every officer and soldier has been above praise; where all have behaved well, it is difficult to distinguish; I must, however, mention the detachment of the King's German Legion,

commanded by Cornet Wieboldt; the artillery, by Captain Roberts; a detachment of the 95th, by Captain Cadoux; and the grenadiers of the 1st regiment of guards, by Captain Thomas. To Colonel Maitland, 1st regiment of guards (second in command), I am much indebted from the commencement of this service; and in the attack of Seville, his military talents, intrepidity, and zeal, were particularly conspicuous. I am also much indebted to Lieut.-Col. Colquitt, commanding a detachment of the 1st regiment of guards; to Lieut.-Colonel Prior, commanding a detachment 20th Portuguese regiment; and to Major Maclain, commanding a detachment 87th regiment.

The exertions of Captain Wynyard (Coldstream guards), assistant-adjutant-general, and Lieut. Reid, royal staff corps, staff officers attached to the detachment, have been indefatigable, Capt. Bunbury, 20th Portuguese regiment, brigademajor, and Lieutenant Smith, royal engineers, were at this time detached on other service.

During the whole of this attack, our allies, the Spaniards, have rivalled the conduct of the British and Portuguese troops; and Gen. Cruz Mourgeon, by his military talents and bravery, has principally contributed to the successful result of the day.

Inclosed is a return of the killed and wounded.

During last night a division of 7 or 8,000 French troops passed by. Our attack has saved the city from the devastations and contributions with which it was threatened.

Captain Wynyard is the bearer of this dispatch, who will inform you

you of any further particulars you may require.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) J. B. SKERRETT.
To Major-Gen. Cooke, &c.

P. S. A return of the guns and military stores taken, will be sent as soon as the quantity can be ascertained. Two of the field-pieces which the enemy advanced against us, fell into our hands.

Return of the killed and wounded of the troops under the command of Colonel Skerrett, at the capture of the city of Seville by assault, on the morning of the 27th of August, 1812.

Total—1 subaltern, 1 serjeant, 1 rank and file, 2 horses, killed; 1 subaltern, 12 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded.

(Signed)

W. CLINTON WYNYARD, A. A.
General.

*London Gazette Extraordinary.
Tuesday, Oct. 6.*

Downing-street, Oct. 6, 1812.

Captain Coore, Aide-de-camp to Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, Governor in chief of his Majesty's provinces in North America, arrived this morning with dispatches from the Lieutenant-Gen. addressed to Earl Bathurst, one of his Majesty's principal secretaries of state, of which the following is an extract and a copy :

Montreal, Aug. 26.

My Lord, — I feel the greatest satisfaction in transmitting to your Lordship a letter which I have this day received by express from
VOL. LIV.

Major-General Brock, announcing to me the surrender of Fort Detroit, on the 16th inst. by Brigadier-General Hull, with the army under his command, exceeding two thousand five hundred men, together with twenty-five pieces of ordnance.

In my dispatches of the 17th and 24th instant, I had the honour of detailing to your Lordship the operations which had taken place in Upper Canada, in consequence of the invasion of that province by the army of the United States. Brigadier-Gen. Hull having crossed the Detroit river on the 12th of last month, with 2,300 men, consisting of regular cavalry and infantry, and militia, bringing with him several field-pieces; and having driven in the militia towards Amherstburg, first advanced to Sandwich, and afterwards approached Amherstburg, with a part of his army to the river Canard, about five miles from the fort, where he was foiled in three attempts to cross that river, and suffered a considerable loss. The garrison of Amherstburg consisted at that time of a Subaltern's detachment of the Royal Artillery, commanded by Lieut. Troughton; of a detachment of 300 men of the 41st regiment, under the command of Captain Muir; and of about as many of the militia; the whole under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Saint George, Inspecting Field Officer of militia in the district.

General Brock, relying upon the strong assurances I had given him, of a reinforcement as prompt and as effectual as the circumstances under which I was placed by this new war would permit me to
R send,

send, adopted the most vigorous measures for the safety of that part of the frontier which had been attacked. In these measures he was most opportunely aided by the fortunate surrender of Fort Michilimachinack, which giving spirit and confidence to the Indian tribes in its neighbourhood, part of whom assisted in its capture, determined them to advance upon the rear and flanks of the American army, as soon as they heard that it had entered the province.

The certainty of the expected reinforcements, and the weakness of the enemy on the Niagara frontier, had, in the mean time, induced General Brock to detach from the garrison of Fort George, 50 men of the 41st regiment, under Captain Chambers, into the interior of the country, for the purpose of collecting such of the Indians and militia as might be ready to join him, and of afterwards advancing upon the left flank of the enemy. Sixty men of the same regiment were also detached from that garrison to Amherstburg, and 40 to Long Point, to collect the militia in that quarter. Having made these dispositions, and having previously sent forward Col. Proctor of the 41st regiment, to Amherstburg,—where he arrived and assumed the command on the 26th of last month—Gen. Brock proceeded himself from York on the 5th instant, for Fort St. George and Long Point on Lake Erie, which last place he left on the 8th following for Amherstburg, with 40 rank and file of the 41st regiment, and 260 of the militia forces.

Whilst General Brock was thus hastening his preparations for the

relief of Amherstburg, the prospects of the American army under General Hull, were becoming every day more unfavourable, and their situation more critical. The intelligence of the fall of Michilimachinack had reached them, which they knew must expose them to an attack of the Indians on one quarter, at the same time that they were threatened on another by the force approaching, under Captain Chambers. An Indian tribe of the Wyandotes, whom they had in vain attempted to bribe, aided by a detachment of the 41st regiment from Amherstburg, had succeeded in cutting off their supplies on the opposite side of the river, and in intercepting their dispatches, which described in very strong terms their apprehensions and despondency. The losses they had sustained in their different actions upon the Canard river, as well as those for protecting their supplies, together with the mode of warfare pursued by the Indians, had greatly discouraged and dispirited them, and had convinced General Hull how hopeless any attempt would be to storm Fort Amherstburg, without great reinforcements and a battering train.

It was under these circumstances at this critical period, and when the enemy were beginning to consult their security by entrenching themselves, that Gen. Brock entered Amherstburg, with a reinforcement, which he was fortunately enabled to do on the 12th instant, without the smallest molestation, in consequence of our decided naval superiority on the lakes. To his active and intelligent mind, the advantages which his

his enemy's situation afforded him over them, even with his very inferior force, became immediately apparent; and that he has not failed most effectually to avail himself of those favourable circumstances, your Lordship will, I trust, be satisfied, from the letter which I have the honour of transmitting.

Having thus brought to your Lordship's view the different circumstances which have led to the successful termination of the campaign on the western frontier of Upper Canada, I cannot withhold from Major-General Brock the tribute of applause so justly due to him for his distinguished conduct on this occasion, or omit to recommend him, through your Lordship, to the favourable consideration of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, for the great ability and judgment with which he has planned, and the promptitude, energy, and fortitude, with which he has effected, the preservation of Upper Canada, with the sacrifice of so little British blood in accomplishing so important a service.

My Aid-de-camp, Capt. Coore, will have the honour of delivering to your Lordship this dispatch; and as he is well qualified to give your Lordship information respecting the military resources of this command, I shall beg leave to refer your Lordship to him for further particulars. I have the honour &c.

(Signed) GEORGE PREVOST.

*Head-quarters, Detroit,
Aug. 16, 1812.*

Sir,—I hasten to apprise your Excellency of the capture of this

very important post. Two thousand five hundred troops have this day surrendered prisoners of war, and about 25 pieces of ordnance have been taken, without the sacrifice of a drop of British blood. I had not more than seven hundred troops, including militia, and about six hundred Indians, to accomplish this service. When I detail my good fortune, your Excellency will be astonished. I have been admirably supported by Colonel Proctor, the whole of my staff, and I may justly say every individual under my command. Believe me, &c.

(Signed)

ISAAC BROCK, Major-General.
To his Excellency Lieut.-Gen.
Sir George Prevost, Bart.

*Head-quarters, Montreal,
Sept. 1, 1812.*

My Lord,—Since I had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship my letter of the 26th ult. in charge on my aide-de-camp Capt. Coore, I have received from Maj. Gen. Brock a dispatch, of which the inclosed is a copy, containing the particulars of Brigadier-General Hull's invasion of Upper Canada, which has terminated most gloriously to his Majesty's arms, in that officer's defeat and surrender, as a prisoner of war, with the whole of the north-western army, together with the Fort Detroit, and 33 pieces of ordnance. I forward this dispatch express, in the expectation of its reaching Captain Coore, previously to his leaving Canada, which, with the colours of the 4th United States' regiment accompanying it, I trust that officer will have the honour

honour of delivering to your Lordship; I have the honour to be, &c.

GEORGE PREVOST.

To the Right Hon. Earl
Bathurst.

*Head-quarters, Detroit,
Aug. 17.*

Sir,—I have had the honour of informing your Excellency, that the enemy effected his passage across the Detroit river on the 12th ult. without opposition, and that after establishing himself at Sandwich, he had ravaged the country as far as the Moravia town. Some skirmishes occurred between the troops under Lieut.-Col. St. George and the enemy upon the river Canard, which uniformly terminated in his being repulsed with loss. I judged it proper to detach a force down the river Thames, capable of acting in conjunction with the garrison of Amherstburg offensively; but Captain Chambers, whom I had appointed to direct this detachment, experienced difficulties that frustrated my intentions. The intelligence received from that quarter admitting of no delay, Colonel Proctor was directed to assume the command, and his force was soon after increased with 60 rank and file of the 41st regiment.

In the mean time, the most strenuous measures were adopted to counteract the machinations of the evil-disposed; and I soon experienced the gratification of receiving voluntary offers of service from that portion of the embodied militia the most easily collected. In the attainment of this important point, gentlemen of the first character and influence showed an

example highly creditable to them; and I cannot on this occasion avoid mentioning the essential assistance I derived from John M'Donnell, Esq. his Majesty's Attorney-Gen. who, from the beginning of the war, has honoured me with his services as my provincial aide-de-camp. A sufficiency of boats being collected at Long Point for the conveyance of three hundred men, the embarkation took place on the 8th instant, and in five days arrived in safety at Amherstburg. I found that the judicious arrangement, which had been adopted immediately upon the arrival of Colonel Proctor, had compelled the enemy to retreat, and take shelter under the guns of his fort: that officer commenced operations by sending strong detachments across the river, with a view of cutting off the enemy's communication with his reserve. This produced two smart skirmishes on the 5th and 9th instant, in both of which the enemy's loss was very considerable, whilst our's amounted to three killed, and thirteen wounded; amongst the latter I have particularly to regret Capt. Muir and Lieutenant Sutherland, of the 41st regiment: the former an officer of great experience, and both ardent in his Majesty's service. Batteries had likewise been commenced opposite Fort Detroit, for one eighteen-pounder, two twelve, and two five and a half inch mortars; all of which opened on the evening of the 15th (having previously summoned Brigadier-General Hull to surrender); and although opposed by a well-directed fire from seven twenty-four pounders, such was their construction, under

under the able directions of Capt. Dixon of the royal engineers, that no injury was sustained from its effect.

The force at my disposal being collected in the course of the 15th, in the neighbourhood of Sandwich, the embarkation took place a little after daylight on the following morning, and by the able arrangements of Lieutenant Dewar of the Quarter-Master General's department, the whole was, in a short time, landed without the smallest confusion at Spring Well, a good position, three miles west of Detroit. The Indians, who had in the mean time effected their landing two miles below, moved forwards and occupied the woods, about a mile and a half on our left.

The force which I instantly directed to march against the enemy, consisted of thirty Royal Artillery, two hundred and fifty 41st regiment, fifty Royal Newfoundland regiment, four hundred militia, and about six hundred Indians, to which were attached three six-pounders and three-pounders. The services of Lieutenant Troughton, commanding the Royal Artillery, an active and intelligent officer, being required in the field, the direction of the batteries was intrusted to Captain Hall, and the marine department; and I cannot withhold my entire approbation of their conduct on this occasion.

I crossed the river with an intention of waiting in a strong position the effect of our force upon the enemy's camp, and in the hope of compelling him to meet us in the field; but receiving information upon landing, that Colonel M'Arthur, an officer of high repu-

tation, had left the garrison three days before with a detachment of five hundred men, and hearing soon afterwards that his cavalry had been seen that morning three miles in our rear, I decided on an immediate attack. Accordingly the troops advanced to within one mile of the fort, and having ascertained that the enemy had taken little or no precaution towards the land-side, I resolved on an assault, whilst the Indians penetrated his camp. Brigadier-General Hull, however, prevented this movement, by proposing a cessation of hostilities, for the purpose of preparing terms of capitulation. Lieutenant-Colonel John M'Donnell and Captain Glegg were accordingly deputed by me on this mission, and returned within an hour with the conditions which I have the honour herewith to transmit. Certain considerations afterwards induced me to agree to the two supplementary articles.

The force thus surrendered to his Majesty's arms cannot be estimated at less than 2,500 men. In this estimate, Colonel M'Arthur's detachment is included, as he surrendered, agreeably to the terms of capitulation, in the course of the evening, with the exception of 200 men, whom he left escorting a valuable convoy at some little distance in his rear; but there can be no doubt the officer commanding will consider himself equally bound by the capitulation.

The enemy's aggregate force was divided into two troops of cavalry; one company of artillery regulars; the 4th United States regiment: detachments of the 1st and 3rd United States regiments, volunteers; three regiments of the
Ohio

Ohio militia; one regiment of the Michigan territory.

Thirty-three pieces of brass and iron ordnance have already been secured.

When this contest commenced, many of the Indian nations were engaged in active warfare with the United States, notwithstanding the constant endeavours of this government to dissuade them from it. Some of the principal chiefs happened to be at Amherstburg, trying to procure a supply of arms and ammunition, which for years had been withheld, agreeably to the instructions received from Sir James Craig, and since repeated by your excellency.

From that moment they took a most active part, and appeared foremost on every occasion; they were led yesterday by Colonel Elliott and Captain M'Kee, and nothing could exceed their order and steadiness. A few prisoners were taken by them, during the advance, whom they treated with every humanity; and it affords me much pleasure in assuring your excellency, that such was their forbearance and attention to what was required of them, that the enemy sustained no other loss in men than what was occasioned by the fire of our batteries.

The high sense I entertain of the abilities and judgment of Lieut. Col. Myers, induced me to appoint him to the important command at Niagara: it was with reluctance I deprived myself of his assistance, but had no other expedient. His duties as head of the Quarter-master-General's department were performed to my satisfaction by Lieutenant-Colonel

Nicholls, Quarter-master General of the militia.

Captain Glegg, my Aide-de-camp, will have the honour of delivering this dispatch to your excellency; he has charged with the colours taken at the capture of Fort Detroit, and those of the 4th United States regiment.

Captain Glegg is capable of giving your excellency every information respecting the state of this province; and I shall esteem myself highly indebted to your excellency to afford him that protection to which his merit and length of service give him a powerful claim.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) ISAAC BROCK,
Major-General

P. S. I have the honour to inclose a copy of a proclamation, which I issued immediately on taking possession of this country.

I should have mentioned in the body of my dispatch the capture of the *Adams*; she is a fine vessel, and recently repaired, but without arms.

Camp at Detroit, Aug. 16, 1812.

Capitulation for the surrender of Fort Detroit, entered into between Major-General Brock, commanding his Britannic Majesty's forces, on the one part, and Brigadier-General Hull, commanding the North Western army of the United States, on the other part.

Art. I. Fort Detroit, with all the troops, regulars as well as militia, will be immediately surrendered to the British forces under the command of Major-General Brock, and will be considered prisoners of war, with the exception

tion of such of the militia of the Michigan territory, who have not joined the army.

II. All public stores, arms, and all public documents, including every thing else of a public nature, will be immediately given up.

III. Private persons and property of every description will be respected.

IV. His excellency Brigadier-General Hull, having expressed a desire that a detachment from the state of Ohio, on its way to join his army, as well as one sent from Fort Detroit, under the command of Colonel M^r Arthur, should be included in the capitulation, it is accordingly agreed to. It is, however, to be understood, that such part of the Ohio militia as have not joined the army will be permitted to return to their homes, on condition that they will not serve during the war; their arms will be delivered up, if belonging to the public.

V. The garrison will march out at the hour of twelve this day, and the British forces will take immediate possession of the fort.

(Signed) J. MACDONNELL, Lieut.

Col. militia. P. A. D. C.

J. B. GLEGG, Major
A. D. C.

JAMES MILLER, Lieut.

Col. 5th U. S. infantry.

E. BRUSH, Colonel commanding 1st regiment of Michigan militia.

Approved.

W. HULL, Brigadier-Gen.
commanding the N. W.
Army.

Approved.

ISAAC BROCK, Major-Gen.

An article supplementary to the articles of capitulation, concluded at Detroit, the 16th of August, 1812.

It is agreed, that the officers and soldiers of the Ohio militia and volunteers shall be permitted to proceed to their respective homes, on this condition, that they do not serve during the present war, unless they are exchanged.

(Signed) W. HULL, Brig-Gen.
Commanding U. S.
N. W. Army.

ISAAC BROCK, Major-
General.

An article in addition to the supplementary article of capitulation, concluded at Detroit, August 16th, 1812,

It is further agreed, that the officers and soldiers of the Michigan militia and volunteers, under the command of Major Wetherall, shall be placed on the same principles as the Ohio militia and volunteers are placed by the supplementary article of the 18th inst.

(Signed) W. HULL, Brig-Gen.
commanding N. W.
Army U. S.

ISAAC BROCK, Major-
General.

Return of ordnance taken in the Fort and Batteries at Detroit, August 16th, 1812.

Iron ordnance—9 twenty-four pounders, 8 twelve-pounders, 5 nine-pounders, 3 six-pounders.

Brass ordnance—3 six-pounders, 2 four-pounders, 1 three-pounder, 1 eight-inch howitzer, 1 five and half-inch ditto.

Total of ordnance taken—33.

FELIX TROUGHTON, Lt. Com-
Royal Artillery.

N B. No

N. B. No time to take an inventory of ordnance stores, &c. and no return could be procured from the American officer.

Proclamation by Isaac Brock, Esq. Major-General commanding his Majesty's forces in the province of Upper Canada, &c.

Whereas the territory of Michigan was this day, by capitulation, ceded to the arms of his Britannic Majesty, without any other condition than the protection of private property; and wishing to give an early proof of the moderation and justice of his majesty's government, I do hereby announce to all the inhabitants of the said territory, that the laws heretofore in existence shall continue in force until his Majesty's pleasure be known, or so long as the peace and safety of the said territory will admit thereof; and I do hereby also declare, and make known to the said inhabitants, that they shall be protected in the full exercise and enjoyment of their religion, of which all persons, both civil and military, will take notice, and govern themselves accordingly

All persons having in their possession, or having any knowledge of any public property, shall forthwith deliver in the same, or give notice thereof to the officer commanding, or Lieutenant-Col. Nicholl, who are duly authorized to receive and give proper receipts for the same.

Officers of militia will be held responsible that all arms in possession of militia men be immediately delivered up, and all individuals whatever who have in their possession arms of any

kind will deliver them up without delay.

Given under my hand, at Detroit, this 16th Day of August, 1812, and in the 52nd year of his Majesty's reign.

(Signed) ISAAC BROCK,
Major-General.

From the London Gazette, Saturday Oct. 10.

Admiralty-office, Oct. 10.

Copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sawyer to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated on board his Majesty's ship Africa, at Halifax, Sept. 15, 1812.

Sir,—It is with extreme concern I have to request you will be pleased to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed copy of a letter from Captain Dacres, of his Majesty's late ship *Guerriere*, giving an account of his having sustained a close action of near two hours on the 19th ult. with the American frigate, *Constitution*, of very superior force, both in guns and men (of the latter almost double), when the *Guerriere* being totally dismasted, she rolled so deep as to render all further efforts at the guns unavailing, and it became a duty to spare the lives of the remaining part of her valuable crew, by hauling down her colours. The masts fell over the side from which she was about to be engaged, in a very favourable position for raking by the enemy. A few hours after she was in possession of the enemy, it was found impossible to keep her above water; she was therefore set fire to, and abandoned, which I hope will satisfy

tisfy their Lordships she was defended to the last. Captain Dacres has fully detailed the particulars of the action, as well as the very gallant conduct of, and the support he received from, the whole of his officers and ship's company, and I am happy to hear he is, with the rest of the wounded, doing well; they have been treated with the greatest humanity and kindness, and an exchange having been agreed on, I am in daily expectation of their arrival here. A list of the killed and wounded is herewith sent, which I regret to say, is very large. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

H. SAWYER, Vice-Admiral.

Boston, Sept. 7th, 1812.

Sir;—I am sorry to inform you of the capture of his Majesty's late ship *Guerriere* by the American frigate *Constitution*, after a severe action on the 19th of August, in lat. 40 deg. 20 min. N. and long. 55 deg. W. At two p. m. being by the wind on the starboard tack, we saw a sail on our weather beam, bearing down on us. At three made her out to be a man of war, beat to quarters, and prepared for action. At four, she closing fast, wore to prevent her raking us. At ten minutes past four, hoisted our colours and fired several shot at her. At twenty minutes past four, she hoisted her colours, and returned our fire, wore several times to avoid being raked, exchanging broadsides. At five, she closed on our starboard beam, both keeping up a heavy fire, and steering free, his intention being evidently to cross our bow. At twenty minutes past five our mizen mast went over the starboard quarter, and

brought the ship up in the wind; the enemy then placed himself on our larboard bow, raking us, a few only of our bow guns bearing, and his grape and riflemen sweeping our deck. At forty minutes past, the ship not answering helm, he attempted to lay us on board; at this time Mr. Grant, who commanded the fore-castle, was carried below, badly wounded. I immediately ordered the marines and boarders from the main deck; the master was at this time shot through the knee, and I received a severe wound in the back. Lieutenant Kent was leading on the boarders, when the ship coming to, we brought some of our bow guns to bear on her, and had got clear of our opponent, when at twenty minutes past six, our fore and main-masts went over the side, leaving the ship a perfect unmanageable wreck. The frigate shooting a-head, I was in hopes to clear the wreck and get the ship under command to renew the action; but just as we had cleared the wreck, our spritsail yard went, and the enemy having rove new braces, &c. wore round within pistol shot, to rake us, the ship laying in the trough of the sea, and rolling, her main-deck guns under water, and all attempts to get her before the wind being fruitless; when calling my few remaining officers together, they were all of opinion that any further resistance would only be a needless waste of lives, I ordered, tho' reluctantly, the colours to be struck. The loss of the ship is to be ascribed to the early fall of the mizen-mast, which enabled our opponent to choose his position. I am sorry to say we suffered severely
in

in killed and wounded, and mostly whilst she lay on our beam, from her grape and musketry, in all 15 killed and 63 wounded, many of them severely; none of the wounded officers quitted the deck till the firing ceased. The frigate proved to be the United States ship Constitution, of thirty twenty-four pounders on her main-deck, and twenty-four thirty-two pounders on her upper deck, and 476 men; her loss, in comparison with our's, is trifling, about 20, the first Lieutenant of marines and eight killed, and first Lieutenant and master of the ship, and 11 men wounded, her low masts badly wounded, and stern much shattered, and very much cut up about the rigging. The Guerriere was so cut up that all attempts to get her in would have been useless. As soon as the wounded were got out of her, they set her on fire; and I feel it my duty to state, that the conduct of Captain Hull and his officers to our men has been that of a brave enemy, the greatest care being taken to prevent our men losing the smallest trifle, and the greatest attention being paid to the wounded, who, through the attention and skill of Mr. Irvine, surgeon, I hope will do well. I hope, though success has not crowned our efforts, you will not think it presumptuous in me to say, the greatest credit is due to the officers and ship's company for their exertions, particularly when exposed to the heavy raking fire of the enemy; I feel particularly obliged for the exertions of Lieutenant Kent, who, though wounded early by a splinter, continued to assist me; in the second Lieutenant

the service has suffered a severe loss; Mr. Scott, the master, though wounded, was particularly attentive, and used every exertion in clearing the wreck, as did the warrant officers. Lieutenant Nicholl, of the royal marines, and his party, supported the honourable character of their corps, and they suffered severely. I must recommend Mr. Snow, master's mate, who commanded the foremost main-deck guns, in the absence of Lieutenant Pullman, and the whole after the fall of Lieutenant Ready, to your protection, he having received a severe contusion from a splinter. I must point out Mr. Garby, acting purser, to your notice, who volunteered his services on deck, and commanded the after quarter-deck guns, and was particularly active, as well as Mr. Bannister, midshipman. I hope, in considering the circumstances, you will think the ship intrusted to my charge was properly defended; the unfortunate loss of our masts, the absence of the third Lieutenant, second Lieutenant of marines, three midshipmen, and 24 men, considerably weakened our crew, and we only mustered at quarters 244 men and 19 boys, on coming into action; the enemy had such an advantage from his marines and riflemen, when close, and his superior sailing enabled him to choose his distance. I inclose herewith a list of killed and wounded on board the Guerriere, and have the honour to be, &c

JAMES R. DACRES.

15 killed, 63 wounded.—Total 78.

(Signed).

JAMES R. DACRES.

JOHN IRVINE, Surgeon.

Admiralty

Admiralty-Office, Dec. 26th.

Copy of a letter from Admiral the Right Honourable Sir John Borslase Warren, Bart. K. B. Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels on the North American station, to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated at Halifax, Nov. 18th, 1812.

Sir ;—I beg leave to transmit copies of letters from Captain Whinyates and Captain Sir John Beresford ; the former giving an account of the capture of his Majesty's brig Frolic, by the American sloop of war Wasp, after a hard contested action ; and the latter acquainting me with the recapture of the Frolic, and of his having at the same time taken the Wasp, both of which were conducted to Bermuda by the Poitiers ; from whence I shall send further particulars for their lordships' information the moment I can learn them. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

J. B. WARREN.

*His Majesty's ship Poitiers,
at sea, Oct. 23rd.*

Sir ;—It is with the most bitter sorrow and distress I have to report to your excellency the capture of his Majesty's brig Frolic, by the ship Wasp, belonging to the United States of America, on the 18th inst. Having under convoy the homeward-bound trade from the Bay of Honduras, and being in latitude 36 deg. N. and 64 deg. W. on the night of the 17th, we were overtaken by a most violent gale of wind, in which the Frolic carried away her main-yard, lost her topsails, and sprung the main topmast. On the morning of the

18th, as we were repairing the damages sustained in the storm, and re-assembling the scattered ships, a suspicious ship came in sight, and gave chase to the convoy. The merchant ships continued their voyage before the wind under all sail ; the Frolic dropped astern, and hoisted Spanish colours, in order to decoy the stranger under her guns, and to give time for the convoy to escape. About ten o'clock, both vessels being within hail, we hauled to the wind, and the battle began. The superior fire of our guns gave every reason to expect its speedy termination in our favour, but the gaff head-braces being shot away, and there being no sail on the main-mast, the brig became unmanageable, and the enemy succeeded in taking a position to rake her, while she was unable to bring a gun to bear. After laying some time exposed to a most destructive fire, she fell with the bowsprit betwixt the enemy's main and mizen rigging, still unable to return his fire. At length the enemy boarded, and made himself master of the brig, every individual officer being wounded, and the greater part of the men either killed or wounded, there not being 20 persons remaining unhurt. Although I shall ever deplore the unhappy issue of this contest, it would be great injustice to the merits of the officers and crew if I failed to report that their bravery and coolness are deserving of every praise ; and I am convinced, if the Frolic had not been crippled in the gale, I should have to make a very different report to your excellency. The Wasp was taken, and the Frolic re-captured the same afternoon, by his Majesty's ship the Poitiers.

Being

Being separated from them, I cannot transmit at present a list of killed and wounded. Mr. Charles M'Kay, the first lieutenant, and Mr. Stephens, the master, have died of their wounds.

I have the honour to be, &c.

T. WHINYATES.

To the Right Hon. Sir

J. B. Warren, Bart. &c.

*His Majesty's ship Poictiers,
at sea, Oct. 18th.*

Sir ;—I have the honour to acquaint you, that his Majesty's ship under my command has this day captured the American sloop of war Wasp, of twenty guns, Captain Jacob Jones, and retaken his Majesty's brig Frolic, Captain Whinyates, which she had captured, after an action of fifty minutes. I have thought it my duty to collect the Frolic's convoy, and to see them in safety to Bermuda. The conduct of Captain Whinyates, who, I regret to say, is wounded, and of his crew, appears to have been so decidedly gallant, that I have been induced to continue him in command of the Frolic, until your pleasure is known. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed). J. P. BERESFORD.
Admiral Sir J. B. Warren, Bart.
K.B. Commander-in-Chief, &c.

*London Gazette Extraordinary,
Friday, November 27th.*

COLONIAL DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, Nov. 27th.

Captain Fulton, aide-de-camp to Lieutenant-General Sir G. Prevost, arrived late last night, with a dispatch from that officer, addressed to Earl Bathurst, one of his

Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, of which the following is a copy :—

*Head-quarters, Montreal,
Oct. 21st. 1812.*

My Lord ;—I have the satisfaction of reporting to your lordship, that his Majesty's forces, aided by the militia and Indians stationed on the Niagara frontier, have completely repelled a second attempt of the enemy to invade Upper Canada, and that a victory has been gained which has left in our possession nine hundred of the American army, and their commander, Brigadier-General Wadsworth, who surrendered himself on the field of battle to Major-General Sheaffe. His Majesty and the country have to deplore the loss of an able and most gallant officer in Major-General Brock, who fell early in the battle, at the head of the flank companies of the 49th regiment, while nobly encouraging them to sustain their position, in opposition to an infinitely superior force, until the reinforcements he had ordered to their support should arrive. For further particulars of this splendid affair, I beg leave to refer your lordship to Major-General Sheaffe's report, herewith transmitted. I also transmit a general order I have just issued to the forces in the British American provinces on the occasion of this important success, as it contains a statement of the services rendered by all who had the good fortune to maintain on that day the fame of his Majesty's arms, and to convince our deluded neighbours, that their superiority of numbers cannot intimidate his Majesty's army, nor shake the fidelity of his Canadian subjects.

Not

Not having received the return of the killed and wounded on the 13th, nor that of the ordnance and stores captured from the enemy, I am under the necessity of deferring sending them to your lordship until the next opportunity, when I also expect to forward the colours taken from the Americans, to be laid at the feet of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

Capt. Fulton, my aide-de-camp, will have the honour of delivering this dispatch to your lordship. He is very capable of affording such information as your lordship may require respecting the state of his Majesty's Canadian provinces.

Eight companies of the Glengary levy are in motion to reinforce Upper Canada.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE PREVOST.
Commander of the Forces.

Fort George, Oct. 13,

Sir,—I have the honour of informing your excellency, that the enemy made an attack with a considerable force this morning before daylight, on the position of Queens-town. On receiving intelligence of it, Major-General Brock immediately proceeded to that post, and I am excessively grieved in having to add, that he fell whilst gallantly cheering his troops to an exertion for maintaining it. With him the position was lost; but the enemy was not allowed to retain it long. Reinforcements having been sent up from this post, composed of regular troops, militia, and Indians, a movement was made to turn his left, while some artillery, under the able direction of Captain Holcroft, supported by a body of infantry, engaged his attention in

front. This operation was aided, too, by the judicious position which Norton, and the Indians with him, had taken on the woody brow of the high ground above Queens-town. A communication being thus opened with Chipawa, a junction was formed with succours that had been ordered from that post. The enemy was then attacked, and after a short but spirited conflict, was completely defeated. I had the satisfaction of receiving the sword of their commander, Brigadier-General Wadsworth, on the field of battle; and many officers, with upwards of nine hundred men, were made prisoners, and more may yet be expected. A stand of colours and one six-pounder were also taken. The action did not terminate till nearly three o'clock in the afternoon, and their loss in killed and wounded must have been considerable. Our's I believe to have been comparatively small in numbers; no officer was killed besides Major-General Brock, one of the most gallant and zealous officers in his Majesty's service, whose loss cannot be too much deplored, and Lieutenant-Colonel M'Donnell, provincial aide-de-camp, whose gallantry and merit rendered him worthy of his chief.

Captains Dennis and Williams, commanding the flank companies of the 49th regiment, which were stationed at Queenstown, were wounded, bravely contending at the head of their men, against superior numbers; but I am glad to have it in my power to add, that Captain Dennis fortunately was able to keep the field, though with pain and difficulty; and Captain Williams's wound is not likely to deprive me long of his services.

I am

I am particularly indebted to Captain Holcroft, of the royal artillery, for his judicious and skilful co-operation with the guns and howitzers under his immediate superintendence, the well-directed fire from which contributed materially to the fortunate result of the day.

Capt. Derenzy, of the 41st regiment, brought up the reinforcement of that corps from Fort George; and Captain Bullock led that of the same regiment from Chipawa; and under their command those detachments acquitted themselves in such a manner as to sustain the reputation which the 41st regiment had already acquired in the vicinity of Detroit.

Major-General Brock, soon after his arrival at Queenstown, had sent down orders for battering the American Fort Niagara; Brigade Major Evans, who was left in charge of Fort George, directed the operations against it with so much effect as to silence its fire, and to force the troops to abandon it; and by his prudent precautions he prevented mischief of a most serious nature, which otherwise might have been effected, the enemy having used heated shot in firing at Fort George. In these services he was most effectually aided by Colonel Clause (who remained in the fort at my desire), and by Captain Vigoreaux, of the royal engineers. Brigade-Major Evans also mentions the conduct of Captains Powell and Cameron, of the militia artillery, in terms of commendation.

Lieutenant Crowther, of the 41st regiment, had charge of two three-pounders that had accompanied the movement of our little corps, and

they were employed with very good effect.

Captain Glegg, of the 49th regiment, aide-de-camp to our lamented friend and general, afforded me most essential assistance; and I found the services of Lieutenant Fowler, of the 41st regiment, assistant deputy quarter-master-general, very useful. I derived much aid, too, from the activity and intelligence of Lieutenant Kerr, of the Glengary fencibles, whom I employed in communications with the Indians, and other flanking parties.

I was unfortunately deprived of the aid of the experience and ability of Lieutenant-Colonel Myers, deputy quarter-master-general, who had been sent up to Fort Erie, a few days before, on duty which detained him there.

Lieutenant-Colonels Butler and Clerk, of the militia, and Captains Hatt, Durand, Rowe, Applegarth, James Crooks, Cooper, Robert Hamilton, McEwen and Duncan Cameron, and Lieutenants Richardson and Thomas Butler, commanding flank companies of the Lincoln and York militia, led their men into action with great spirit. Major Merritt, commanding the Niagara dragoons, accompanied me, and gave me much assistance with part of his corps. Captain A. Hamilton, belonging to it, was disabled from riding, and attached himself to the guns under Captain Holcroft, who speaks highly of his activity and usefulness. I beg leave to add, that Volunteers Shaw, Thompson, and Jarvis, attached to the flank companies of the 49th regiment, conducted themselves with great spirit; the first was wounded and the last taken prisoner: I beg leave

leave to recommend these young men to your excellency's notice. Norton is wounded, but not badly : he and the Indians particularly distinguished themselves ; and I have very great satisfaction in assuring your excellency, that the spirit and good conduct of his Majesty's troops, of the militia, and of the other provincial corps, were eminently conspicuous on this occasion.

I have not been able to ascertain yet the number of our troops, or of those of the enemy engaged : our's, I believe, did not exceed the number of the prisoners we have taken ; and their advance, which effected a landing, probably amounted to thirteen or fourteen hundred.

I shall do myself the honour of transmitting to your excellency further details when I shall have received the several reports of the occurrences which did not pass under my own observation, with the return of the casualties, and those of the killed and wounded, and of the ordnance taken.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. H. SHEAFFE,
Major-General.

To his excellency Sir George
Prevost, Bart. &c.

Admiralty-office, Dec. 29.

Copy of a letter from Captain John Surman Carden, late commander of his Majesty's ship the *Macedonian*, to John Wilson Croker, esq. dated on board the American ship *United States*, at sea, the 28th Oct. 1812.

Sir,—It is with the deepest regret I have to acquaint you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that

his majesty's late ship *Macedonian* was captured on the 25th instant by the United States ship *United States*, Commodore Decatur commander : the detail is as follows :—

A short time after daylight, steering N. W. by W. with the wind from the southward, in lat. 29 deg. N. and long. 29 deg. 30 min. W. in the execution of their lordships orders, a sail was seen on the lee beam, which I immediately stood for, and made her out to be a large frigate under American colours : at nine o'clock I closed with her, and she commenced the action, which we returned ; but from the enemy keeping two points off the wind, I was not enabled to get as close to her as I could have wished. After an hour's action, the enemy backed and came to the wind, and I was then enabled to bring her to close battle ; in this situation I soon found the enemy's force too superior to expect success, unless some very fortunate chance occurred in our favour ; and with this hope I continued the battle to two hours and ten minutes, when, having the mizen-mast shot away by the board, topmasts shot away by the caps, main-yard shot in pieces, lower masts badly wounded, lower rigging all cut to pieces, a small proportion only of the fore-sail left to the fore-yard, all the guns on the quarter-deck and fore-castle disabled but two, and filled with wreck, two also on the main-deck disabled, and several shot between wind and water, a very great proportion of the crew killed and wounded, and the enemy comparatively in good order, who had now shot a-head, and was about to place himself in a raking position, without our being enabled to re-
turn

turn the fire, being a perfect wreck and unmanageable log; I deemed it prudent, though a painful extremity, to surrender his Majesty's ship; nor was this dreadful alternative resorted to till every hope of success was removed even beyond the reach of chance, nor till, I trust, their lordships will be aware every effort had been made against the enemy by myself, my brave officers and men; nor should she have been surrendered whilst a man lived on board, had she been manageable. I am sorry to say, our loss is very severe: I find by this day's muster, thirty-six killed, three of whom lingered a short time after the battle; thirty-six severely wounded, many of whom cannot recover; and thirty-two slightly wounded, who may all do well:—total, one hundred and four.

The truly noble and animating conduct of my officers and the steady bravery of my crew, to the last moment of the battle, must ever render them dear to their country.

My first lieutenant, David Hope, was severely wounded in the head towards the close of the battle, and taken below; but was soon again on deck, displaying that greatness of mind and exertion, which, though it may be equalled, can never be excelled; the third lieutenant, John Bulford, was also

wounded, but not obliged to quit his quarters: second lieutenant, Samuel Mottley, and he, deserve my highest acknowledgments. The cool and steady conduct of Mr. Walker, the master, was very great during the battle, as also that of Lieutenants Wilson and Magill, of the marines.

On being taken on board the enemy's ship, I ceased to wonder at the result of the battle. The United States is built with the scantling of a seventy-four gun ship, mounting thirty long twenty-four pounders (English ship guns) on her main-deck, and twenty-two forty-two pounders carronades, with two long twenty-four pounders on her quarter-deck and fore-castle, howitzer guns on her tops, and a travelling carronade on her upper deck, with a complement of four hundred and seventy-eight picked men.

The enemy has suffered much in her masts, rigging and hull above and below water: her loss in killed and wounded, I am not aware of, but I know a lieutenant and six men have been thrown overboard.

Inclosed you will be pleased to receive the names of the killed and wounded on board the Macedonian; and have the honour to be, &c.

JOHN S. CARDEN.

To J. W. Croker, Esq.
Admiralty.

PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS,

Passed in the Sixth Session of the Fourth Parliament of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, 52nd George III.—A. D. 1812.

An act for continuing to his Majesty certain duties on malt, sugar, tobacco, and snuff, in Great Britain; and on pensions, offices, and personal estates in England; for the service of the year 1812.

An act to permit sugar, the produce of Martinique and other conquered islands in the West Indies, to be taken out of warehouses on the payment of the like rate of duty for waste as British plantation sugar.

An act to revive and continue until the 31st day of December, 1812, so much of an Act made in the 49th year of his present Majesty, to prohibit the distillation of spirits from corn or grain, in the united kingdom, as relates to Great Britain; and to revive and continue another act made in the 49th year aforesaid, to suspend the importation of British or Irish-made spirits into Great Britain or Ireland respectively; and for granting certain duties on worts or wash made from sugar during the prohibition of distillation from corn or grain in Great Britain.

An act for raising the sum of 10,500,000*l.* by exchequer bills, for the service of Great Britain for the year 1812.

An act for raising the sum of 1,500,000*l.* by exchequer bills, for the service of Great Britain for the year 1812.

VOL. LIV.

An Act for making provision for the better support of his Majesty's household, during the continuance of his Majesty's indisposition.

An act for granting to his Majesty a certain sum for defraying the expenses incident to the assumption of the personal exercise of the royal authority by his royal highness the Prince Regent in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty.

An act for the regulation of his Majesty's household, and enabling her Majesty the Queen to meet the increased expense to which her Majesty may be exposed during his Majesty's indisposition: and for the care of his Majesty's real and personal property; and to amend an act of the last session of parliament, to provide for the administration of the royal authority during his Majesty's illness.

An act to repeal an act of the 25th year of his present Majesty, for better securing the duties on coals, culm, and cinders; and making other provisions in lieu thereof; and for requiring ships in the coal trade to be measured.

An act to amend an act of the 50th year of his present Majesty, for granting a sum of money to be raised by exchequer bills, to be advanced and applied in the manner and upon the terms therein

S

mentioned

mentioned for the relief of the united company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

An act to repeal an act passed in the 39th and 40th year of his present Majesty, for establishing certain regulations in the offices of the House of Commons, and to establish other and further regulations in the said offices.

An act for extending the laws for preventing the embezzlement of his Majesty's naval ordnance and victualling stores in Ireland.

An act to alter and amend an act, passed in the 51st year of the reign of his present Majesty, for the relief of certain insolvent debtors in England.

An act for granting annuities to discharge certain exchequer bills.

An act for further continuing, until the 25th day of March 1813, certain bounties and drawbacks on the exportation of sugar from Great Britain; and for suspending the countervailing duties and bounties on sugar, when the duties imposed by an act of the 49th year of his present Majesty shall be suspended; and for continuing so much of an act of the 47th year of his present Majesty, as allows a bounty on raw sugar exported until the 25th day of March, 1813.

An act for the more exemplary punishment of persons destroying or injuring any stocking or lace frames, or other machines or engines used in the frame-work knitting manufactory, or any articles or goods in such frames or machines: to continue in force until the first day of March, 1814.

An act for the more effectual preservation of the peace, by enforcing the duties of watching and warding, until the 1st day of March, 1814, in places where disturbances prevail or are apprehended.

An act for making perpetual an act made in the 12th year of his present Majesty, for encouraging the manufacture of leather, by lowering the duty payable upon the importation of oak bark, when the price of such bark shall exceed a certain rate.

An act to amend an act of the last session of parliament, for granting to his Majesty a sum of money to be raised by lotteries.

An act to continue several laws relating to permitting the importation of tobacco into Great Britain from any place whatever, and to permitting goods and commodities to be imported into and exported from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in any ship or vessel until the 25th day of March, 1815; and to the amending an act for consolidating and extending the several laws in force for allowing the importation of certain goods and merchandize into and from certain ports in the West Indies, until the 25th day of March, 1814.

An act to render valid and effectual certain oaths administered to and taken by certain members of the House of Commons before deputies of the late Lord Steward of his Majesty's household, during the vacancy of the said office.

An act for punishing mutiny and desertion; and for the better payment of the army and their quarters.

An act for the regulating of his

his Majesty's royal marine forces while on shore.

An act for raising the sum of 6,789,625*l.* by way of annuities.

An act to continue, until the 25th day of March, 1813, an act for regulating the drawbacks and bounties on the exportation of sugar from Ireland.

An act to indemnify such persons in the united kingdom as have omitted to qualify themselves for offices and employments, and for extending the times limited for those purposes respectively, until the 25th day of March, 1813; and to permit such persons in Great Britain as have omitted to make and file affidavits of the execution of indentures of clerks to attornies and solicitors, to make and file the same on or before the 1st day of Hilary term, 1813.

An act for enabling the wives and families of soldiers embarked in Ireland for foreign service to return to their homes.

An act to amend an act of the last session of parliament, making provision for the families of militia men in Ireland.

An act to amend the laws relating to the militia of Ireland.

An act to provide for regulating the warehousing of spirits distilled from corn in Ireland, for exportation, without payment of the duty of excise chargeable thereon; and to transfer the custody of spirits so warehoused, from the commissioners of customs and port duties in Ireland and their officers, to the commissioners of inland excise and taxes in Ireland, and their officers.

An act to repeal an act made in the 39th year of Queen Elizabeth, intituled an act against lewd and

wandering persons pretending themselves to be soldiers or mariners.

An act for the relief of infant suitors in courts of equity, entitled to stock or annuities in any of the public or other funds transferable at the bank of England.

An act to continue until the expiration of six months after the conclusion of the present war, an act made in the 46th year of his present Majesty, for permitting the importation of masts, yards, bowsprits, and timber for naval purposes, from the British colonies in North America, duty free.

An act for altering and amending an act made in the 32nd year of the reign of his late Majesty king George the second, for the relief of debtors, with respect to the imprisonment of their persons; and of an act made in the 39th year of his present Majesty, for making perpetual an act made in the 33rd year of his present Majesty for the further relief of debtors; and for other purposes in the said act expressed.

An act to prohibit all intercourse between the island of Jamaica and certain parts of the island of Saint Domingo.

An act for granting additional duties on mahogany not imported from the Bay of Honduras, and for reducing the duties on certain species of wood imported from the said bay.

An act for settling and securing a certain annuity on Earl Wellington and the two next persons to whom the title of Earl Wellington shall descend, in consideration of his eminent services.

An act for amending the laws relating to the local militia in England.

An act for the more effectual regulation of pilots, and of the pilotage of ships and vessels on the coast of England.

An act to make provision for a limited time respecting certain grants of offices.

An act to amend and continue until the 25th day of March, 1813, an act of the 45th year of his present Majesty for appointing commissioners to inquire into the public expenditure, and the conduct of the public business in the military departments therein mentioned; and another act, of the 51st year of his present Majesty, for continuing and extending the same to public works executed by the office of works and others.

An act for amending the laws relating to the allowance of the bounties on pilchards exported until the 24th day of June, 1819.

An act for increasing the rates of subsistence to be paid to innkeepers and others on quartering soldiers.

An act for the erection of a penitentiary house for the confinement of offenders convicted within the city of London and the county of Middlesex; and for making compensation to Jeremy Bentham, esquire, for the non-performance of an agreement between the said Jeremy Bentham and the lords commissioners of his Majesty's treasury, respecting the custody and maintenance of convicts.

An act to suspend the exportation from Ireland to parts beyond the seas of spirits made or distilled in Ireland from corn or grain until the 31st day of December, 1812.

An act to grant to his Majesty duties upon spirits made or dis-

tilled in Ireland, and to allow certain drawbacks on the exportation thereof; and to repeal certain bounties given to persons licensed to sell spirituous liquors, wine, beer, and ale, by retail, in Ireland.

An act to revive and continue until the 31st day of December, 1812, so much of an act made in the 49th year of his present Majesty to prohibit the distillation of spirits from corn or grain in the united kingdom as relates to Ireland.

An act to provide for the regulating and securing the collection of the duties on spirits distilled in Ireland from corn, malted or unmalted, in stills of and under 100 gallons content.

An act to continue the period for purchasing the legal quays in the port of London, and to enable the lords of the treasury to purchase buildings in Thames-street, for the purpose of erecting a new custom-house.

An act to continue until three months after the commencement of the next session of parliament, and amend an act of the last session of parliament, for making more effectual provision for preventing the current gold coin of the realm from being paid or accepted for a greater value than the current value of such coin; for preventing any note or bill of the governor and company of the bank of England from being received for any smaller sum than the sum therein specified; and for staying proceedings upon any distress by tender of such notes; and to extend the same to Ireland.

An act to provide for the more speedy

speedy examination, controlling, and finally auditing the military accounts of Ireland.

An act to provide for the speedy and regular examination and audit of the public accounts of Ireland: and to repeal certain former acts relating thereto.

An act for extending the time in which coffee of the British plantations may be sold by auction without payment of the duty on auctions; and for making an allowance of such duty on coffee sold for which the said duty has not been paid.

An act for continuing until the 1st day of August, 1813, several laws relating to the duties on glass made in Great Britain.

An act to prevent foreign goods of certain descriptions being brought from the United States of America into Canada; and to allow a greater quantity of worsted yarn to be exported from Great Britain to Canada.

An act to explain and amend an act passed in the 50th year of his present Majesty, for explaining and amending an act for continuing and making perpetual several duties of 1s. 6d. in the pound on offices and employments of profit, and on annuities, pensions, and stipends.

An act to enable his Majesty to settle on their royal highnesses the Princesses Augusta Sophia, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sophia, an annuity of 36,000*l.* instead of the annuity settled on them by an act passed in the 18th year of his present Majesty.

An act to grant to his Majesty certain duties of excise on tobacco to be manufactured in Ireland; and to allow certain drawbacks

in respect thereof, in lieu of former duties of excise and drawbacks: and to provide for the regulating and securing the collection of the said duties.

An act for allowing on the exportation of manufactured plate for the private use of persons residing or going to reside abroad, the same drawback as is now allowed on the exportation of such plate by way of merchandize.

An act for altering the mode of payment of the superannuation allowances in the department of the customs in Scotland.

An act to grant an excise duty on spirits made or distilled from sugar in Ireland, during the prohibition of distillation from corn or grain there, in lieu of the excise duty now chargeable thereon, and to allow a drawback on the export thereof.

An act to enable coadjutors to archbishops and bishops in Ireland to execute the powers of archbishops and bishops respectively.

An act for more effectually preventing the embezzlement of securities for money and other effects, left or deposited for safe custody, or other special purpose, in the hands of bankers, merchants, brokers, attornies, or other agents.

An act for extending the provisions of an act of the 30th year of king George the second, against persons obtaining money by false pretences, to persons so obtaining bonds and other securities.

An act to allow the use of sugar in brewing beer in Great Britain.

An act to explain and amend an act of the 50th year of his present Majesty, to regulate the taking of securities in all offices in respect

of which security ought to be given, and for avoiding the grant of all such offices in the event of such security not being given within a time to be limited after the grant of such offices.

An act for settling and securing certain annuities, on the widow and eldest son of the late right honourable Spencer Perceval, and for granting a sum of money for the use of his other children.

An act for amending the laws relating to the local militia in Scotland.

An act to continue until the 5th day of July, 1803, several Acts for granting certain rates and duties, and for allowing certain drawbacks and bounties on goods, wares, and merchandize, imported into and exported from Ireland.

An act for raising the sum of 1,500,000*l.* by way of annuities, and treasury bills for the service of Ireland.

An act for the better cultivation of navy timber in the forest of Woolmer, in the county of Southampton.

An act for the better cultivation of navy timber in the forest of Alice Holt, in the county of Southampton.

An act for repealing so much of an act of the 36th year of his present Majesty, for the better relief of the poor within England; and enlarging the powers of the guardians of the poor, as limits the annual amount of the assessments.

An act to continue until the 1st day of January, 1814, an act for appointing commissioners to inquire and examine into the nature and extent of the several bogs in Ireland, and the practicability of

draining and cultivating them, and the best means of effecting the same.

An act to provide for the more complete and effectual liquidation of a debt due to his Majesty from the late Abraham Goldsmid, merchant, and his surviving partners; and to confirm and establish certain agreements entered into for that and other purposes relating thereto.

An act to amend several acts relating to the revenue of customs and port duties in Ireland.

An act for granting an additional drawback on flint, phial, and crown glass; for charging an additional countervailing duty on flint and crown glass imported from Ireland; and for the better prevention of frauds in the exportation of glass on drawback.

An act to make better provision for the commissioners of appeal in revenue causes in Ireland.

An act to allow British plantation sugar and coffee, imported into Bermuda in British ships to be exported to the territories of the United States of America in foreign ships or vessels; and to permit articles, the production of the said United States, to be imported into the said island in foreign ships or vessels.

An act for extending the period in which deeds were directed to be enrolled by an act of the 50th year of his present Majesty, for amending several acts for the redemption and sale of the land tax.

An act to amend an act made in the 49th year of his present Majesty, for providing a durable allowance of superannuation to the officers

officers of excise, under certain restrictions.

An act for transferring the Scotch excise charity and superannuation funds to the consolidated fund, and paying all future allowances from the latter fund, and for making provision for certain superannuated officers of excise in England and Scotland.

An act to revive and continue, until the 25th day of March, 1813, and amend so much of an act, made in the 39th and 40th year of his present Majesty, as grants certain allowances to adjutants, and serjeant-majors of the militia of England, disembodied under an act of the same session of parliament.

An act for making allowances in certain cases to subaltern officers of the militia in Great Britain, while disembodied.

An act for raising the sum of 22,500,000*l.* by way of annuities.

An act for raising the sum of 5,000,000*l.* by exchequer bills, for the service of Great Britain, for the year 1812.

An act to repeal the several duties under the care of the commissioners for managing the stamp duties in Ireland, and to grant new duties in lieu thereof; and for transferring the management of the duties on playing cards and dice from the commissioners of inland excise to the commissioners of stamp duties.

An act for granting to his Majesty certain additional rates of postage in Great Britain.

An act for charging an additional duty on copper imported into Great Britain, until the expiration of six calendar months after

the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace.

An act for raising the sum of 500,000*l.* by treasury bills for the service of Ireland, for the year 1812.

An act to continue until the 25th day of March, 1814, an act made in the parliament of Ireland, in the 27th year of his present Majesty, for the better execution of the law and preservation of the peace within counties at large.

An act to continue, until the 1st day of August, 1813, certain acts for appointing commissioners to inquire into the fees, gratuities, perquisites, and emoluments received in several public offices in Ireland; to examine into any abuses which may exist in the same, and into the mode of receiving, collecting, issuing, and accounting for public money in Ireland.

An act for granting to his Majesty certain new and additional duties of assessed taxes; and for consolidating the same with the former duties of assessed taxes.

An act for granting to his Majesty additional duties of excise in Great Britain, on glass, hides, and tobacco and snuff.

An act to amend and regulate the assessment and collection of the assessed taxes, and of the rates and duties on profits arising from property, professions, trades, and offices, in that part of Great Britain called Scotland.

An act for applying the amount of the bounties on certain linens exported from Great Britain towards defraying the charge of the loan made and stock created in the present session of parliament.

An

An act to amend several acts relating to the revenue of inland excise and taxes in Ireland.

An act to permit sugar, coffee, and cocoa to be exported from his Majesty's colonies or plantations to any port in Europe to the Southward of Cape Finisterre, and corn to be imported from any such port, and from the coast of Africa, into the said colonies and plantations, under licences granted by the collectors and controllers of the customs.

An act for allowing certain articles to be imported into the Bahama islands, and exported therefrom in foreign vessels; and for encouraging the exportation of salt from the said islands.

An act to permit the exportation of wares, goods, and merchandize, from any of his Majesty's islands in the West Indies to any other of the said islands, and to and from any of the British colonies on the continent of America, and the said islands and colonies.

An act to provide a summary remedy in cases of abuses of trusts created for charitable purposes.

An act for the registering and securing of charitable donations.

An act for the more easy manning of vessels employed in the southern whale fishery.

An act to render more effectual an act, passed in the 37th year of his present Majesty, for preventing the administering or taking unlawful oaths.

An act to continue, amend, and extend the provisions of an act, passed in the 48th year of his present Majesty, for enabling the secretary at war to enforce returns

from clerks of subdivisions and others, in relation to fines, bounties, and sums due under any acts relating to the defence of the realm or militia, for the purpose of directing the distribution and securing the due application thereof.

An act for increasing the duty on rum and other spirits imported into Newfoundland from the British colonies and plantations on the continent of America, and charging a duty on spirits imported into Newfoundland from his Majesty's colonies in the West Indies.

An act for extending the allowance of the duty on salt used in making oxigenated muriatic acid for bleaching linen, to salt used in making such acid for bleaching thread and cotton twist.

An act to amend an act passed in the 50th year of his present Majesty, for placing the duties of hawkers and pedlers under the management of the commissioners of hackney coaches.

An act to empower the commissioners of Chelsea hospital to commute pensions for a sum of money in certain cases.

An act for amending an act passed in the 12th year of his late Majesty King George the 2nd, intituled 'An act for the more easy assessing, collecting, and levying of county rates;' and for the remedying certain defects in the laws relating to the repairing of county bridges and other works maintained at the expense of the inhabitants of counties in England.

An act for defraying the charge of the pay and clothing of the militia and local militia in Great Britain for the year 1812.

An

An act for defraying, until the 25th day of March, 1813, the charge of the pay and clothing of the militia of Ireland; and for making allowances in certain cases to subaltern officers of the said militia during peace.

An act for raising the sum of 1,216,666*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* Irish currency by treasury bills for the service of Ireland for the year 1812.

An act to enable the commissioners of his Majesty's treasury to issue exchequer bills, on the credit of such aids or supplies as have been or shall be granted by parliament for the service of Great Britain for the year 1812.

An act to make more effectual provision for enabling the corporation for preserving and improving the port of Dublin, to erect, repair, and maintain light houses and lights round the coasts of Ireland, and to raise a fund for defraying the charge thereof.

An act to amend an act of this session of parliament for amending the laws relating to the local militia of England.

An act for imposing additional duties of customs on certain species of wood, and on pot and pearl ashes imported into Great Britain.

An act to amend an act made in the present session of parliament, intituled 'An act to revive and continue until the 31st day of December, 1812, so much of an act made in the 49th year of his present Majesty, to prohibit the distillation of spirits from corn or grain, in the united kingdom, as relates to Great Britain; and to revive and continue another act made in the 49th year aforesaid, to suspend the importation of British or Irish made spirits into Great Britain or Ireland, respectively;

and for granting certain duties on worts or wash made from sugar during the prohibition of distillation from corn or grain in Great Britain.'

An act to repeal so much of an act of the 43rd year of his present Majesty, as permits the importation of goods and commodities from Turkey, Egypt, or the Levant seas, in foreign ships.

An act to explain, amend, and extend the provisions of an act, passed in the last session of parliament, for enabling the wives and families of soldiers to return to their homes, to the widows, wives, and families of soldiers dying or employed on foreign service.

An act to authorize the transfer to the East Indies, of debts originally contracted there, on the part of the East India company, payable in England.

An act to remove doubts as to an act passed in the 50th year of the reign of his present Majesty, relating to raising men for the service of the East India company.

An act for amending and enlarging the powers of an act passed in the 50th year of his present Majesty, to enable his royal highness the Prince of Wales to grant leases of certain lands and premises called Prince's Meadows, in the parish of Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, parcel of his said royal highness's duchy of Cornwall, for the purpose of building thereon.

An act for vesting in his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, certain lands or grounds, formerly part of the wastes of the manor of Sandhurst, in the county of Berks, freed and discharged of commonable and other rights.

An act for granting to his Majesty a sum of money to be raised by lotteries.

An act to repeal the several acts for the collection and management of the stamp duties in Ireland, and to make more effectual regulations for collecting and managing the said duties.

An act to prohibit, until the 1st day of November, 1812, the making of starch, hair powder, and blue, from wheat and other articles of food; and for suspending part of the duties now payable on the importation into Great Britain of starch.

An act for better securing the duties on malt.

An act for amending two acts passed in the 48th and 49th years of his present Majesty, for enabling the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt to grant life annuities.

An act for the more effectual punishment of persons destroying the properties of his Majesty's subjects; and enabling the owners of such properties to recover damages for the injury sustained.

An act to exempt from the duties of 1s. and of 6d. in the pound, certain augmentations made to the stipends of parishes in Scotland.

An act for explaining, amending, and extending the several laws relative to the payment of forfeited and unclaimed shares of army prize money, to the royal hospital at Chelsea; and for directing the mode of making up the accounts of pensions paid to the widows of officers of the army.

An act for taking an account of the population of Ireland, and of the increase or diminution thereof.

An act for the better regulation of the butter trade in Ireland.

An act for advancing 2,500,000*l.* to the East India Company, to enable them to discharge part of the Indian debt.

An act to enable the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to regulate the price of coals to be bought for the benefit of the poor of the city of Dublin.

An act for extending the time for the payment of certain sums of money, advanced by way of loan under an act, passed in the last session of parliament, for enabling his Majesty to direct the issue of exchequer bills, to a limited amount, for the purposes and in the manner therein mentioned.

An act for the further prevention of the counterfeiting of silver tokens issued by the governor and company of the bank of England, called dollars, and of silver pieces issued and circulated by the said governor and company, called tokens; and for the further prevention of frauds practised by the imitation of the notes or bills of the said governor and company.

An act for granting to his Majesty certain duties on stone bottles made in or imported into Great Britain.

An act to permit the exportation of certain articles to the Isle of Man from Great Britain.

An act to regulate the manner of licensing boats by the commissioners of the customs, and the delivering up of licences in cases of loss or capture of vessels licensed; and for enabling the commissioners of the customs to purchase certain boats at a valuation.

An act to permit the removal of goods from one bonding warehouse

house to another, in the same port.

An act for amending and reducing into one act, the provisions contained in any laws now in force imposing the penalty of death for any act done in breach of or in resistance to any part of the laws for collecting his Majesty's revenue in Great Britain.

An act to suspend and finally vacate the seats of members of the House of Commons, who shall become bankrupts, and who shall not pay their debts in full within a limited time.

An act to explain the exemption from toll in several acts of parliament, for carriages employed in husbandry; and for regulating the tolls to be paid on other carriages, and on horses, in certain other cases therein specified.

An act for the better regulating and preserving parish and other registers of births, baptisms, marriages, and burials in England.

An act for regulating the allowances granted out of the duties of assessed taxes, to persons in respect of the number of their children, by an act passed in the 46th year of his present Majesty; and for extending the limitation mentioned in the said act in proportion to the increase of the said duties.

An act to enable the keeper of his Majesty's privy purse for the time being, to dispose of and transfer all such public stocks or funds, as now do or shall hereafter stand in his name, in the books of the governor and company of the bank of England, in trust for his Majesty.

An act to regulate the separation of damaged from sound coffee, and to permit dealers to send out any quantity of coffee not exceeding

eight pounds weight without permit, until the end of two years from the passing of this act.

An act to amend an act passed in the 44th year of his Majesty's reign for granting stamp duties in Great Britain, so far as regards the duties granted on medicines and on licences for vending the same.

An act to extend the provisions of an act of the last session of parliament, relating to the half pay and allowance of officers retiring from service; and to authorize the allowing to foreign officers wounded the like pensions and allowances as are given to British officers under the like circumstances.

An act to repeal an act, passed in the 49th year of his present Majesty, intituled 'An act for better regulating the office of agent general for volunteers and local militia,' and for the more effectually regulating the said office.

An act to rectify a mistake and to carry into more effectual execution the purposes of an act made in the last session of parliament, relating to the British white her-ring fishery.

An act for granting to his Majesty certain sums of money out of the consolidated fund of Great Britain, and for applying certain monies therein mentioned, for the service of the year 1812, and for further appropriating the supplies granted in this session of parliament.

An act to repeal certain acts, and amend other acts relating to religious worship and assemblies, and persons teaching or preaching therein.

An act for the more effectual punishment of persons aiding prisoners of war to escape from his Majesty's dominions.

An act to prevent the issuing and circulating of pieces of gold and silver, or other metal, usually called tokens, except such as are issued by the banks of England and Ireland respectively.

An act to extend the provisions of an act passed in the 36th year of the reign of his present Majesty, for the relief of persons equitably entitled to stocks and annuities transferable at the bank of England, and of an act passed in this present session for the relief of infant suitors entitled to the like stocks and annuities, to all other transferable stocks and funds.

An act for charging foreign liquors and tobacco derelict, jetsam, flotsam, lagan, or wreck, brought or coming into Great Britain, with the duties payable on importation of such liquors and tobacco.

An act to enable justices of the peace to order parochial relief to prisoners confined under mesne process for debt in such gaols as are not county gaols.

An act for enabling his Majesty to grant leases under certain circumstances, and for the better carrying into effect the provisions of an act passed in the 39th and 40th

year of the reign of his present Majesty, touching the formation of a map of the New Forest in the county of Southampton, and continuing and extending other provisions of the said act; for further appropriating the monies arisen or to arise from the sale of certain crown lands under the authority of divers acts of parliament; for annexing certain lands within the forest of Rockingham to his Majesty's manor of King's Cliffe; and for enabling the commissioners of the treasury to appropriate small portions of land for ecclesiastical purposes.

An act for the preservation of the public peace in certain disturbed counties in England; and to give, until the 25th day of March, 1813, additional powers to justices for that purpose.

An act for the relief of certain insolvent debtors in Ireland.

An act for enabling his Majesty to raise the sum of three millions for the service of Great Britain, and for applying the sum of 200,000*l.* British currency for the service of Ireland.

An act for the relief of certain insolvent debtors in England.

REMARKABLE TRIALS AND LAW CASES.

TRIALS FOR LIBEL AND STATE CRIMES.

Trial of Mr. Kirwan, one of the Catholic Delegates, at Dublin.—

The Court of King's Bench having commenced their sittings for this term on Thursday, the 23rd of

January, proceeded on Monday the 27th, to the trial of Mr. Thomas Kirwan, one of the Roman Catholic delegates for the parish of St. Mary's, in Dublin.

After the panel for the jury had been called over, one of the counsel for the traversers rose, and challenged

challenged the array, on an allegation that the panel had been returned at the suggestion of the prosecutors. The counsel for the Crown joined issue on the challenge, observing, that such a proceeding was only calculated to encourage that hostile indisposition to the laws which was spreading fast through this country.

After a reply from the counsel on the other side, triers were appointed to decide upon the challenge.

The Crown solicitor, after an examination of unusual length, proved, that his application to the sheriff for a copy of the panel, to which he conceived himself entitled as of right, was resisted; but he admitted that he had obtained a copy from the under-secretary of state. This being produced, was found to contain private marks made by the Crown solicitor, and was numbered with figures, in some instances corresponding with, and in others differing from the order of the panel returned into court. On this circumstance the traverser's counsel appeared principally to rely in support of the challenge, and at length closed his evidence, insinuating that the difference had been caused by the interference of government.

Mr. James, one of the sheriffs, was then called on by the Crown, and examined; he contradicted the insinuation, and explained the few changes which had been made in the panel. The traverser's counsel, Mr. Burrows, then spoke to evidence, and was replied to by the Attorney-General; when the chief justice addressed the triers, who retired for a few moments, and

brought in a verdict against the challenge.

On Tuesday the Court proceeded with the trial, when an affidavit on behalf of Mr. Kirwan was brought forward, the object of which was to postpone the trial, that the traverser might have the same advantage of time for inquiry, which the Crown had had with respect to the persons on the panel. The affidavit contained also an allegation, that he believed many of the panel were Orangemen, and enemies to Catholics; and he named Mr. Blackwood, the first on the panel, as one. Mr. Blackwood publicly and solemnly denied the fact. The solicitor for the traverser being then called on by the Court to deny his possession of the panel on behalf of the traverser, at as early a time as the Crown had become possessed of it, refused to be sworn, screening himself under his character of attorney in the cause. The jury were then sworn, and the trial proceeded,

The Attorney-General opened the case at great length. He stated the charges to be, that on the 9th of July last, an assembly, calling itself an Aggregate Meeting of Roman-Catholics, did assemble in Dublin; Lord Fingal presided in the chair; and that assembly did, of itself, order county elections to be held in the several counties of Ireland, for the purpose of electing or returning ten delegates for each county. These resolutions were published, and Lord Fingal's name to them, as chairman. The indictment then stated the assembling so proposed to be convened, as an unlawful assembly, and pregnant with danger; it was enough to state

state it as an unlawful assembly. The next count was, that on the 30th July last, an assembly of the parishioners of the parish of St. Mary was held. At that assembly they proceeded to an election of delegates. Those delegates were to be the delegates for that parish, according to the mandates of the meeting of the 9th of July; at that assembly the traverser was present, and did act in the election of the delegates. He recited the second section of the Convention Act, and then proceeded—"I have now stated the charges in the indictment; and they divide themselves into a question of law, and a question of fact. Of law, if the assembly so ordered to be convened is an unlawful assembly. It will save time to inform you, that question was agitated fully upon the trial of Dr. Sheridan; and after a full and most able defence, the court was of opinion, that it was an unlawful assembly, without any doubt; and to that opinion I bow, and that point is now settled, unless my learned friends mean to persuade you that you are the judges of the law, whereas the constitution have only made you judges of the fact." He then proceeded to comment upon the evidence produced on the former trial, and to show its sufficiency for conviction. He contended, that, notwithstanding the verdict of the former jury, the facts were as clear as the sun.

Huddleston and Sheppard (the peace-officer), who had been produced as witnesses for the Crown on the former trial, were examined, when the latter produced his notes, the loss of which seemed to have been so dwelt upon on Sheridan's

trial. The Court adjourned at six o'clock, till Wednesday, when it proceeded upon the trial, and J. M'Donagh (also a witness on behalf of the Crown on the former trial) was produced, and upon his examination and cross-examination having closed, it appeared by his testimony, as well as Sheppard's, that one of the persons assembled in Liffey-street, on the 31st of July, warned the meeting of the proclamation issued on that day. This was considered as laying a foundation for giving in evidence the proclamation, to show that it warned all persons from holding any election, pursuant to the resolutions of the Aggregate Meeting of the 9th of July, from which and the warning, it would appear that this was a meeting of that nature. The Gazette, being offered as evidence of the proclamation, was admitted by the defendant's counsel, and its contents read; here the evidence for the Crown closed. The proclamation furnished an additional link to connect the two meetings.

Counsel for the traverser then contended, that there was a variance between the indictment and the evidence,—that the charge was "The having elected five representatives for a district in the city of Dublin, called St. Mary's parish," and used as a parish by the Roman Catholics; that the evidence was, that the Catholic parish of St. Mary, for which they conceived the election to be held, comprised three Protestant parishes, one of which, St. George's parish, by an old act of parliament then produced, appeared to be altogether in the county, and not at all in the city.

city. To this, two answers were given; the first, that supposing that to be so, there was no material variance; the second, that taking the whole evidence together, it appeared that this meeting was in compliance with Lord Fingal's resolutions of July 9th, by which counties were to elect ten each, and the parishes in Dublin (as contra-distinguished from the county), were to elect five each; that therefore the jury had strong evidence to show that the election in Liffey-street was held only for so much as was in Dublin city; and that the allegation of the indictment, "a district in the city of Dublin, called the parish of St. Mary," was sustained. The Court determined on leaving it to the jury, whether the election really was so or not; and according to their answer, afterwards to decide on the law. Counsel then, in a speech of three hours, stated the case of the traverser, and went fully into all the political doctrines connected with the case. This occupied the Wednesday.

The proceedings of Thursday opened with a speech from the Solicitor-General, in which he displayed his usual command of wit, eloquence, and argument. He particularly animadverted on the traverser's counsel assuming the high tone of an advocate of the people and of a public cause; and yet condescending to question notorious facts, and to insist on every petty cavil that would be used in the defence of a thief. He also animadverted strongly, but in respectful terms, on Lord Fingal, who was present, for sitting by, two several times, while a witness

was tortured and branded for swearing to resolutions which had for months appeared in the public prints with the sanction of his lordship's name, and without contradiction. At half-past one he concluded, and the chief justice proceeded to charge the jury, explaining to them the provisions of the Convention Act at some length. The jury then retired, and after being out fifteen minutes, returned with a verdict of guilty.

On February 6th, Mr. Kirwan was brought up for judgment, when, after a speech from the Court explaining the crime, and the purpose of government in prosecuting, he was fined one mark and discharged.

The Attorney-General entered a *noli prosequi* upon the other depending causes on the same charge.

Court of King's Bench, Dublin, February 21st.—This day the long pending causes of the Police Magistrates of the city of Dublin *versus* Mr. John Magee, proprietor of the Dublin Evening Post, came on to be tried. Mr. Burrowes conducted the prosecution, on a criminal information for a libel in the before-named newspaper, intituled "Inefficiency of the Police." The libel stated a number of outrages to have been committed in Dublin, through the want of proper attention on the part of the Police,—that the magistrates received salaries of near 10,000*l.* a-year of the public money, to which might be added, the sum of 40,000*l.* accruing from fines,—and that the watchmen would do their duty effectually, if the magistrates bettered their condition, and attended to their own business. It likewise

likewise styled them the *corregidores* of Dublin, who loved money as much as the watchman in his rags, and were unwilling to give a fair price for honesty. Mr. Magee had been remonstrated with on the effects of this statement. He acknowledged he was the editor, but denied any specific knowledge of the contents of the article. He said he knew the author, but would not give him up. He further stated, that his ears had been stunned with complaints against the Police. The learned counsel contended for the maxim, "*qui facit per alium facit per se*;" and asserted that such publications did great mischief to the liberty of the press. Mr. Gould spoke for the defendant, and was replied to by Mr. Burton. The chief justice summed up at considerable length; when the jury retired, and after an hour and a half's consultation, brought in a verdict—*Guilty of publishing, but without a malicious intention.*

They were informed by the Court that such a verdict could not be received; when they retired a second time, and after remaining out ten minutes, returned with a verdict of—*Guilty.*

Trial for Blasphemy.—Court of King's-Bench, March 6.—The King v. Daniel Isaac Eaton.—This was an information filed against the defendant for the publication of a blasphemous and profane libel on the Holy Scriptures, the work of Thomas Paine. After the pleadings had been opened by Mr. Abbott, the Attorney-General mentioned the motives which had induced him to file the information, and characterised the publication in question in terms of the greatest

abhorrence. The libel, he said, asserted that the Holy Scriptures were, from beginning to end, a fable and an imposture; that the Apostles were liars and deceivers; the author denied the miracles, the resurrection, the ascension of Jesus Christ, nay his very existence as the son of God; and even as a man on earth; he asserts his whole history to be nearly fabulous, and places it on a level with the legends of the Heathen mythology, concluding with taking upon himself to describe infidelity in these words: "He that believes in the story of Christ, is an infidel to God." The Attorney-General then enlarged on the mischiefs that must result from disseminating such doctrines, which struck at the foundation of all that was sacred in Christian societies, and all the sanctions of legal proceedings. He showed that blasphemy had always been considered by the law of the land as one of the highest of misdemeanors, and adduced various cases of decisions to this purpose. He then noticed the plea which might be brought for the defendant, that he was only the publisher of the libel; and said that whoever was the author, it would be proved that the defendant was well acquainted with its contents, and had been at the pains of importing it from America, and had assured the purchasers that they might rely upon its being the genuine publication of Thomas Paine. After he had concluded his speech, the passages were read which were charged in the information.

The defendant then began to read his defence, which contained a history of his life and opinions, and

and also digressed to such free strictures on the books of Scripture and their authors, that he was several times interrupted by Lord Ellenborough. At length his lordship said, that upon mature deliberation he thought the public would be better served by letting him read every line he had written. When the defendant had finished his paper, he personally addressed the jury, stating that the work had been six or seven years in circulation in America without being prosecuted, and mentioning the hardships he himself had undergone from six former prosecutions.

Lord Ellenborough made a short address to the jury, in which he said that the defence from the beginning to the end had been a tissue of opprobrious reviling of the books of the Old and New Testament. He confirmed the law laid down by the Attorney-General, and said that though it was competent for America or any other independent state, to administer their laws as they pleased, yet in this country the Christian religion was strongly fenced about by the laws of the land. He should leave it to the jury, as Christian men sworn upon the Gospel of Christ, to say whether the present was not an atrocious libel on the Christian religion.

The jury immediately found the defendant guilty; and on the motion of the Attorney-General, he was committed.

On April 30th the Attorney-General prayed the judgment of the court against Daniel Isaac Eaton, who was brought up in custody. The defendant put in the

affidavits of five respectable persons, stating that they had been acquainted with him several years, during which he had conducted himself as a peaceable moral man, who never in conversation attempted to enforce his own particular opinions either in politics or religion. He also put in an affidavit by himself, stating that he published the libel without any evil intention, or design to disturb the peace, or affect the dishonour of God, as charged; and mentioning that the pamphlet in question contained many passages in which the perfections of the Deity were deduced, and praise was given to the morality of the Gospel—together with other allegations tending to excite the mercy of the court.

Mr. Prince Smith then addressed the court at considerable length in mitigation of punishment. He said he did not deny the existence or propriety of the law upon which the information was filed, but all human laws were founded upon circumstances, and changed with the lapse of time, and the character and manners of a people. He then proceeded to show how the rigour of ancient intolerance had been gradually softened, and that in the last century great latitude had been allowed to the discussion of religious doctrines. He contended for the right of this free discussion, and adverted to the advantage which had accrued to the Christian religion by the attacks upon it, as having given rise to so many excellent defences. He said it would have been better to have answered the pamphlet in question, than to have prosecuted it, since the latter proceeding might be

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thought to imply a necessity for using the strong arm of the law in its refutation. He acknowledged that if he was addressing their lordships merely as lawyers, these arguments would be only as chaff thrown before the wind; but he appealed to their feelings as men and as philosophers acquainted with the human mind, and with the influence of religion. He understood that the Attorney-General had claimed some merit for lenity in not prosecuting the defendant upon the statute of William III. If he had done so, their lordships would have had no discretion in apportioning the punishment; but on the common-law prosecution, they were open to every argument of humanity and philosophy. The information charged, that this libel was published against the King's crown and dignity; but that infidelity did not militate against these was proved by the many millions in the East who were not Christians, and yet were such material additions to the crown and dignity of the King of England. If deists were tolerated and formed into a sect, would any injury ensue to those morals of which the court was guardian? Many who had written with as much audacity, but more artifice, had gone unpunished—this he instanced in Hume, Gibbon, &c. He also adverted to a new translation of Lucretius advertised with the name of the Attorney-General as a subscriber.

The Attorney-General made a brief reply, in which he observed that there was nothing in the pamphlet which was not drawn from the very dregs of infidelity, and

which had not been answered again and again; and that where one person might be injured by the literary works alluded to, five hundred would be by one of this kind. It rested with the court to determine the defendant's crime and punishment as the libel regarded the peace of the country; and if there were no authorities on the subject, reason and principle must decide that this was an offence against that peace which it had a direct tendency to disturb.

The defendant was then ordered to be remanded to custody, and to be brought up for judgment on that day se'nnight.

On May 8th his sentence was pronounced by Mr. Justice Grose, which was, imprisonment in Newgate for eighteen calendar months, and to stand in the pillory during the first of those months.

Court of King's-Bench, Thursday, Nov. 19.—The King v. Daniel Lovell.—The Solicitor-General prayed the judgment of the Court upon the proprietor of the *Statesman*, for a libel in that paper of the 19th of March, 1812, upon the commissioners for the transport service, and for the care of sick and wounded seamen and prisoners of war. To the information *ex-officio*, filed by the Attorney-General for this libel, the defendant had suffered judgment by default, and was now brought up, under custody, from Newgate, to receive the judgment of the Court. The libel was read by the clerk of the Crown-office, and related to the conduct of the Transport Board, in regard to foreign prisoners of war confined in England. The libel was contained
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in a letter to the editor, signed "HONESTUS," and set out with saying, "that it had discovered the hardships which English prisoners in France were suffering, to originate in a principle of retaliation for the miseries which French prisoners in England endured; for whose maintenance, it is stated; that three millions were annually allowed by government; but that a large part of this sum was misapplied to the benefit of the commissioners; that they detained remittances which were sent from the native countries of the prisoners for five or six months, and employed the money in stock-jobbing during that time; that government allowed each prisoner a suit of clothes once in eighteen months, which the prisoners never received; that the provisions with which they were supplied were of a bad quality, and that they were often causelessly punished with only half portions, and sometimes the whole prison was put upon half portions, by which the commissioners gained from 250*l.* to 300*l.* per day in each dépôt, besides the large sums for expenses never incurred; that the government were likewise interested in the appointment of these commissioners, if they did not actually participate in their speculations; and that the negociation for an exchange of prisoners being intrusted to such hands, it was no wonder that exchange never took place; that by the capitulations of Cape Francois and Morlaix, it was agreed that some old and infirm prisoners should be returned to France immediately, which had never been done; and that it was thus that our enemies were provoked to act by us in the same manner, and that we saw many of

our country-men in despair, submitting to serve on board the enemy's ships; and that, unless the constitution were regenerated, we were on the verge of slavery," &c.

The affidavit of the defendant was then read, in which he stated:—

"That he had been a state prisoner in his Majesty's gaol of Newgate since the 16th of November, 1810: and that in the month of May, 1811, he engaged George Houston as editor of his paper, but that he was obliged to discharge him, for abuse of confidence in July, 1812; that the libel was printed entirely without the defendant's knowledge, and that he was even ignorant that it had been so printed, till the 14th of April following, when a refutation of it, under the signature of "A Friend to Truth," was shewn to the defendant by Mr. Houston; that the defendant expressed his indignation at the insertion of the former letter, and the omission of the latter, and caused that defect to be remedied on the 15th, by the insertion of the answer to the libel, which was immediately inclosed in a letter to the commissioners. The answer stated, that the prisoners' remittances were not sent to the commissioners; that they could not derive any benefit from the property of such prisoners as ran away or died, because the prisoners generally sold it to their comrades before-hand, or it was expended in burying them; that it was not true that their allowance of clothes was kept back, as might be seen by their garb, or if they were in rags and nakedness, that that was to be attributed to their propensity towards gambling; that the government allowance of bread

was certainly not sufficient for men of good appetites, and that their meat was often bad, but this afforded no source of profit to the Transport Board," &c. &c.

The affidavit further stated, "that the defendant had several times inserted an advertisement in his paper offering a reward of 50*l.* for the discovery of the author of the letter in question, which he characterized as false and scandalous, and announced the exhibition of its hand-writing at the office of his paper; that on the 29th of May, he inserted a regular apology to the honourable the commissioners, and offered to make any other submission which they might require; and that he inclosed them extracts from former numbers of his paper, written during the negotiation for exchange of prisoners, highly approving the conduct of the board, and directly opposing the opinions of the libel."

The affidavit set out all these extracts and concluded with expressing the sorrow he had always felt at the publication of the libel which must have been written by some secret enemy to ruin him, and his invariable convictions that the charges against the honourable the commissioners were groundless; that his long imprisonment hitherto had caused great confusion in his affairs, and had materially injured his health.

There were also affidavits of Mr. Houston, and James Swan, jun. the printer of the statesman, confirming the defendant's affidavit: the latter stated, that the defendant had frequently requested him, for God's sake, not to insert any libellous matter in the paper; but Mr. Swan threw the blame of the present libel on the editor, the

printer seldom or never reading the articles. There was further, the affidavit of Mr. Anderson, apothecary, of Fleet-street, stating, that the defendant had since his present imprisonment, been afflicted with a spitting of blood, and that his general health would, doubtless become much impaired, should he be further deprived of air and exercise.

Mr. Brougham addressed the court in mitigation of punishment. He dwelt upon the extreme folly of the libel, which rendered the charge in it utterly incredible; upon the contrary opinions maintained in the same paper; upon the defendant's statement of ignorance of the publication, and his willingness to do away all the impression it might have made; and upon the indulgence due to the situation in which he stood as being a prisoner at the time.

The Solicitor-General, in reply, adverted to the mischievous tendency and criminal nature of the libel, and upon the improbability that the defendant should not have known of its insertion from the 19th of March to the 14th of April following; and said, that the simple state of the case was, whether a person intrusting his publication to agents, was or was not responsible for all the extent of a libel which had probably been the cause of much mischief.

Mr. Justice Le Blanc (in the absence of Mr. Justice Grose) pronounced the judgment of the Court. He stated the publication simply as a libel, without any epithets, leaving it open to any person who had heard it read to apply to it either the epithets, false, scandalous, and malicious, or foolish, nonsensical, and ridiculous (comprehend-
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ed likewise in the charges of wickedness and malice). A greater or heavier charge against a public board could not well be imagined; yet the libel did not rest there, but represented those who appointed the commissioners, as not only conniving at the conduct of the board, but pursuing a policy with respect to their country, the only motive of which was their private interest. The obvious purport of the libel, was not only to render the French prisoners here discontented, but to hold out to the French the justice of retaliation; thus producing misery to our own imprisoned countrymen abroad, discontent among the French prisoners here, and disaffection in the minds of all his Majesty's subjects. The defendant's situation ought to have made him acquainted with the danger of intrusting his newspaper to other conduct than his own; and he ought to have been the more watchful in proportion as he was imprisoned for a former offence so near to the place of publication. The learned judge then commented upon the inconsistency of his affidavits in mitigation, and attributed his neglect to his not wishing to see the libel in question. Why did he say to his printer, "For God's sake take care not to publish any thing libellous," and yet take no heed against it himself? It was not now to be controverted that he who derived the profit from a publication was answerable for its mischief. The Court sentenced the defendant to pay a fine to the King, of 500*l.* and to be imprisoned in his Majesty's gaol of Newgate for the space of one year and a half, to be computed from the expiration of his present term

of imprisonment; and at the end of the further term to find security for his good behaviour, for three years, himself in 1,000*l.* and two sureties in 500*l.* each, and to be further imprisoned till that fine be paid, and that security given.

The King v. John and Leigh Hunt.—*Court of King's-Bench, Dec. 9.*—This was a trial by special jury, upon information, of the proprietors of the *Examiner* for a libel on the Prince Regent.

In opening the pleadings, the libel, which appeared on the 22nd March, was read, as follows:—

"What person, unacquainted with the true state of the case, would imagine, in reading these astounding eulogies, that this *Glory of the People* was the subject of millions of shrugs and reproaches! That this *Protector of the Arts* had named a wretched foreigner his historical painter, in disparagement or in ignorance of the merits of his own countrymen! That this *Mecænas of the Age* patronized not a single deserving writer! That this *Breather of Eloquence* could not say a few decent, extempore words—if we are to judge, at least, from what he said to his regiment on its embarkation for Portugal! That this *Conqueror of Hearts* was the disappointment of hopes! That this *Exciter of Desire* (bravo Messieurs of the *Post*!)—this *Adonis in Loveliness*, was a corpulent gentleman of fifty! In short, that this *delightful, blissful, wise, pleasurable, honourable, virtuous, true, and immortal Prince*, was a violator of his word, a libertine over head and ears in debt and disgrace, a despiser of domestic ties, the companion of gamblers and demireps, a man who has just closed half a
century

century without one single claim on the gratitude of his country, or the respect of posterity !”

The Solicitor-General, having asked Mr. Brougham, counsel for the defendants, whether he wished to have any other part of the article read than the mere libel, he replied that he should be content with reading them himself; but Lord Ellenborough said, that if any other parts of the paper were to be observed upon, the court should know the subject of observation. Some other passages were therefore read, which were introductory to that charged as the libel, and related to the disapprobation with which the Prince Regent's health was received at the dinner of the Irish Society in London, and to the adulatory language of the *Morning Post*, in speaking of his Royal Highness. It was chiefly upon this last topic that Mr. Brougham founded his exculpation of the defendants; and he represented, that at the time when the expectations of those who had indulged a hope of the most beneficial political changes as consequent upon the Regent's coming to power, were frustrated, the appearance of such panegyric as that paper had bestowed upon him was a kind of provocation which could not be resisted; and that the offensive article was rather to be considered as a commentary upon this unworthy adulation, than as written with a malicious or libellous design. Mr. Brougham then went through some of the particulars of the article charged, and whilst he was apparently endeavouring to palliate or do away their obvious meaning, it was evident that his purpose was to show that they were

founded in fact. He concluded with strongly urging upon the jury the danger to morals of rendering it criminal to animadvert from the press upon the vices of a prince or his courtiers, which are above reproof and control from other quarters.

The Solicitor-General, in reply, disclaimed all title to discuss the measures of the Prince Regent, and it was not for him to presume to defend them. He, however, took a general view of the charges contained in the prosecuted article, and endeavoured to show their exaggerated and libellous nature.

Lord Ellenborough began his charge to the jury by a severe censure of the defendants' counsel, who, he said, had imbibed the spirit of his client, and seemed to have inoculated himself with all the poison and mischief which this libel was calculated to effect. He then told the jury, that they had to decide to-day, whether we were in future to live under the dominion of libel, or the control and government of the law; for against all the law and its provisions had this libeller set his front of defiance, and had contended, that every person holding superior rank and situation is amenable to this sort of attack, and that when the ancestors of a man accepted of rank, they renounced for themselves and their posterity all protection of the law. After dwelling for some time upon this idea, his lordship proceeded to the excuse made for this libel, that it was a comment upon a personal eulogy which had given disgust to the writer; and observed, that adulation might have been reprobated without making the character of its subject a topic of defa-
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mation and calumny. He then took notice of some of the particulars of the attack upon the Prince; and with respect to the charge in the libel of his being *a violator of his word*, he said he was sorry for the indiscretion of the defendants' advocate, who confirmed it by saying, that he told untruths as a prince, as if that mended the matter. Invested as he was almost with the regal character of his father, could any thing be more calumnious or disgraceful towards him? He then alluded to the charge of his being "a libertine," and the "companion of gamblers and demireps;" respecting which, Mr. Brougham had dwelt at some length on the conviction of a nobleman about the Prince's person, of adultery in its most heinous form. The following words, if accurately reported, will scarcely be read without surprise and regret, as pronounced from the bench of the Lord Chief Justice of England. "The libeller was not defended by saying that the Prince had taken into his councils some person who had, at a remote time, been guilty of adultery. There were venial circumstances connected with that offence; and was his Royal Highness the only person who had done the like? Let us look back upon his Majesty's reign, distinguished as it had been for his private morality, and see if no person was ever intrusted by him with counsel who had incurred a similar *misfortune*. He chose to call it by that name; for there were circumstances which rendered the crime of adultery either enormous or venial."

His lordship concluded a charge much more forcible against the

defendants than the speech of the Solicitor-general, by apostrophising the jury, that "if there was one man of the twelve, who, pledging only the veracity of a gentleman, could say this was not a libel, he must remind that man of the more sacred sanction of an oath, which bound him to administer justice according to that law by which he pronounced this a foul, atrocious, and malignant libel."

The jury being called upon for their verdict, the foreman said, they were all agreed but one. After retiring for about a quarter of an hour, that one not having maintained his dissent, they returned with a verdict of *guilty* against both the defendants.

At the next term they were brought up for judgment, when they put in an affidavit, stating that they had been actuated by no personal malice or love of slander, in what they had done, and were conscious of none but honourable motives. They also gave some statement of their pecuniary circumstances, in mitigation of any intended fine. Mr. Justice Le Blanc then addressed the defendants, and after some observations on their affidavit, pronounced the sentence of the court, which was, that each of the defendants should be imprisoned for two years, one in Cold-bath-fields, and the other in the Surrey county gaol in the Borough; and at the end of their imprisonment should each pay a fine of 500*l.* and find security for their behaviour for five years more.

Trial of the Marquis of Sligo.
—*Admiralty Sessions.*—*Old Bailey,*
Dec. 16, 1812.—At ten o'clock Sir W. Scott entered the court, accom-
panied

panied by Lord Ellenborough, Mr. Baron Thompson, and several doctors of law. The jury were then sworn to try the Marquis of Sligo, who appeared in court, and sat by his counsel, Messrs. Dauncey, Dampier, and Scarlett.

Before the trial began, Mr. Dauncey stated, that his lordship wished to plead guilty as to part, and not guilty as to the rest; and wished, therefore, only one part now to be entered into.

Dr. Robinson, on the other side, was not unwilling to accede to this arrangement; but Lord Ellenborough said that the indictment must not be garbled. He must plead guilty to the whole, or not guilty to the whole.

After some conversation between the counsel, the trial proceeded: the indictment was read, charging the marquis with unlawfully receiving on board his ship, William Elden, a seaman in the King's service, and detaining, concealing, and secreting him.

The second count charged him with enticing and persuading to desert the said seaman.

The third count, with receiving the said Elden, knowing him to have deserted.

There were other counts with respect to other seamen, and a count for an assault and false imprisonment.

Dr. Robinson, who opened the case for the prosecution, stated, that this was an offence of the greatest magnitude, and had been attended in this instance with circumstances of aggravation, both in the mode of enticing the men, and afterwards in the abandonment of them in such a manner that they might all have been, as some were, entirely lost to his

Majesty's service. The defendant was a young nobleman, who was on his travels in the year 1810, and had touched at Malta, where he had been introduced to Captain Spranger; he wished to have a vessel of his own, and had hired a vessel called the *Pylades*. He had received assistance from Captain Spranger, in the outfit of his vessel, and had been in the habit of being carried backwards and forwards in the Captain's boat by four picked men: before the vessel of Captain Spranger left that station, two of these men were missing,—men of tried fidelity, and long standing, and to whom long arrears of wages were due, and who, it was to be supposed, would not have deserted on a slight occasion; these men had attracted the notice and admiration of the defendant, and from a suspicion that they were in his service, Captain Spranger paid him a visit. The defendant expressed himself hurt at the suspicions of Captain Spranger, who, from his acquaintance with the Marquis, contented himself with cautioning him on the subject, and representing to him the state of the service, which was then very low. He then left the defendant, and sent to him a description of the persons of his men who were missing, desiring the marquis to send them to Malta, if they should come to him. Six witnesses, who would be brought before the jury, would prove these facts: it would appear that they had been accosted by the defendant's servants at Malta, and by them made drunk, and in that state had been conveyed aboard his vessel. When they became sensible, they were introduced to his lordship, who treated their wish to go back

back to their ships with levity. On the 13th of May the vessel sailed to Palermo, and from thence to Messina: here constraint was exercised towards them: Italian sentinels, armed, were placed over them to prevent their getting on shore. At Messina his lordship obtained a protection for them for six months, inserting false names in the list, and pledging, as he told his crew, his word and honour that there were no men-of-war's men on board. The vessel then proceeded on its course, and the 30th of May was boarded by a boat from his Majesty's ship the *Active*. The officer of that ship had heard rumours of deserters being on board the *Pylades*, and sent a lieutenant and a Midshipman to search the defendant's vessel. They were introduced to the defendant, and told their business: he denied that he had any such men on board, and during the search went through the ship with them with a lighted candle. They asked if they had seen all the crew? The marquis, on his word, assured them that they had, though the seamen whom he had enticed were concealed in a place under the defendant's cabin. This part of the evidence was the less liable to objection, as the defendant had himself acknowledged it in a letter. The defendant then went by Milo, to Patmos, where ten of the crew were allowed to go on shore for two or three days, and it was told them that the vessel would not sail for thirteen days: the same evening, however, it sailed without them, leaving them in the greatest distress. They went to Scio, to the British consul, who took them in a boat to the vessel of the Marquis;

but he would take only four of them, and left the rest in a most inhuman manner to find their way back to England as they could. Some of them had surrendered themselves to king's ships, and had been tried by courts-martial; but the two most material witnesses, Lee and Lloyd, of the *Warrior*, could not be produced in court, as Lee had died at Athens, and Lloyd had not yet returned to this country.

Other persons might have been made defendants in this indictment, but his lordship was selected as being the principal, and in order that the rest might bear evidence in the history of the transactions.

Captain Spranger, of the *Warrior*, was then called upon, who stated, that in April, 1810, the marquis was introduced to him by letter from Admiral Martin. He then gave a detail of all the circumstances mentioned by Dr. Robinson relative to the services rendered by him to Lord Sligo, and the disappearance of two men of his crew, together with his lordship's assurance on his word of honour that he had them not, and would not entertain them should they offer themselves. The captain produced a letter which he had afterwards received from Lord Sligo, stating, "that in the course of his voyage he found he had on board some men-of-war's men, and that he was determined to send them on shore the first opportunity; whatever expenses he might incur on their account, he should put down to the score of humanity, and glory in it; that he thought this explanation necessary to Captain Spranger, who had treated him like a gentleman; but the other captain who complained, he should not notice:

notice : if the business was brought into court he should do his best to defend himself ; and if he did not succeed, he had an ample fortune, and could pay the fines." This letter was dated from Constantinople. On cross-examination the captain said that it was usual for men on foreign stations to offer themselves for other service ; and that he believed Lord Sligo had offered permission to search his ship.

William Elden, next examined, deposed, that he had been gunner's mate on board the Montague, lying off Malta, in May, 1810. He was on shore with leave on the 13th, when being about to return to his ship, he saw at a public house two persons in livery whom he afterwards found to have been the Marquis of Sligo's servants. He drank with them, and became so intoxicated, that he does not know how he got on board the Pylades, in the pumpwell of which vessel, under weigh, he found himself when he became sober. He there saw two of his shipmates ; and going upon deck, he saw several more. Lord Sligo asked him and his companion their names, which he changed for them. At Palermo he got leave to go on shore to get clothes, and received twenty dollars for wages, and then returned. At Messina he begged leave to quit the Pylades, and offered to return the money and clothes he had received ; but his lordship would not suffer him, and foreign sentinels with arms were placed over him. Lord Sligo at Palermo told the crew that he had procured a protection from Admiral Martin, having pledged his honour that he had no men-of-war's men on

board. They were afterwards chased by the Active frigate, and brought to, when a king's boat came alongside. Lord Sligo desired him to go below, but he said, he had rather stay where he was. He was however, compelled to go down into the after-hold under the cabin, where were the rest of the seamen of the Warrior and Montague : the hatch was closed over them, and a ladder placed at top. In about half an hour they were called up again. At Patmos he and some others had leave of absence for a few days, but the next day his lordship sailed without giving them any notice, and left him and six more in great distress. They got in a boat to Scio, and went with the British consul to the Pylades ; but Lord Sligo refused to take them in, and threatened to fire at them : he took four of them on board, the carpenter, the surgeon, a man of the Warrior, and the sail-maker. He himself had since been tried, and sentenced to receive 200 lashes, but his punishment was remitted.

Some other sailors gave testimony to a similar effect, but admitted that at Patmos the signal for sailing had been hoisted, and a gun fired. One of them confessed that on Lord Sligo's refusal to take them in, he said that it should be a sorrowful day for him.

Captain Hayes, who was lieutenant of the Active at the time of the search, said, that having told Lord Sligo that the reason of his coming on board was to search for deserters, his lordship told him there were none, and desired him to search. He inquired for the ship's articles ; Lord Sligo told him there were none, but gave him the

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watch-list. He mustered the men by the roll, and asked his lordship if all his men were included in it; he answered, on his word, or his honour (he did not recollect which), that they were. He had a list of the deserters from the Warrior and Montague, but saw, from the appearance of the men on deck, that they were not those he was looking for.

Mr. Dauncey, for the defendant said, that he did not stand forward to defend the whole conduct of his noble client, who, though prepared to prove that he had not seduced these men from the king's service, was ready to acknowledge that they had remained with him, and that he had not given them up when he had reason to suppose they were deserters. He then commented upon the evidence at great length, endeavouring to make it appear that the men had voluntarily entered on board the Pylades, and that Lord Sligo did not know them to be deserters. He particularly dwelt upon the expression of one of the witnesses, when refused to be taken again into the Pylades, "that it should prove an unfortunate day to his lordship," inferring from it a determination to be revenged by blackening the marquis's character. One charge attempted to be insinuated by the witnesses, he said, he must rebut with indignation, which was, that at the isle of Patmos his client left these men on shore, deserted, without money or clothes, that their testimony might not at a future time be given against him. The fact was, that only five or six men were left at Patmos, while the rest of the deserters came away in the

Pylades, whose testimony would have been quite sufficient. Every signal of departure was given to these men: the flag was hoisted, two or three guns were fired, and the vessels made tacks off and on during the greatest part of the night, to give them an opportunity of coming on board if they chose. When Lord Sligo refused some of them admission afterwards at Scio, their clothes were handed to them, and they received their wages, though they were entitled to none, having broken contract. Mr. Dauncey concluded his speech by admitting, on the part of his client, that he had offended against the letter of the law, and was only anxious to be freed from the charge of deliberate seduction.

Witnesses were then called for the defendant, who were chiefly Lord Sligo's own servants. One of them deposed, that he was directed to procure as many English or American seamen as possible, but not to take any *king's men*, or sailors from the ships of war: and the tenor of their evidence went to prove that his lordship did not know that they were men of that description.

John Lewellyn, acting commander of the Pylades, said, that the men had sufficient opportunities at Palermo or Messina to leave the ship, if they thought proper; and that, though he himself always supposed them to be men-of-war's men, he did not know that the marquis believed it before their sailing. But upon the evidence being read to this witness which he formerly gave at the court martial, he acknowledged that it had been settled between the marquis and the men, the first day they

they were at sea, what names they should assume, and that his lordship sent them below for the purpose of concealment when the Active's boat came in sight.

After Dr. Robinson had replied on the part of the prosecution, Lord Ellenborough recapitulated the evidence, and commented on the pledge of his honour, which his lordship had given to Admiral Martin, that there were no men-of-war's men on board, when, on the faith of that pledge, a protection was granted him for forty men. He also observed upon the particular description the captain of the Warrior had given him of the two men who had deserted from his ship, who could not but have been known to the defendant, as being part of a boat's crew whom he had often used, and whose appearance he had highly praised. After a variety of remarks his lordship left it to the jury to determine on the probability of the evidence on both sides.

The jury after a short consultation, found the marquis *guilty* on all the counts in the indictment, except that for false imprisonment.

On the following day, Lord Sligo appeared in court to receive sentence. An affidavit was put in, exculpating him from part of the charge, and expressing his contrition for the offence. Sir William Scott then in an impressive speech pronounced the sentence of the court, which was, that his lordship should pay to the king a fine of 5,000*l.* and be imprisoned four months in Newgate.

Benjafield v. Weeble.—Court of King's-Bench, Dec. 22.—*Special Jury.*—This was an action against

the printer and publisher of the *County Chronicle and Weekly Advertiser*, for a libel in that paper of the 3rd of March, 1812; to which the defendant pleaded *not guilty*, and a justification that the charges contained in the said libel were specifically true.

Mr. Solicitor-General stated the plaintiff's case, who, he said, was now a magistrate for the county of Suffolk, residing at Bury St. Edmunds. He had been originally an officer of the King's yeomen of the guard, and subsequently obtained a commission in the Kent militia through the late Duke of Dorset. In the year 1788 he was editor of the *Morning Post*, which he conducted at the time of the then prospective regency, on account of that illness from which his Majesty happily recovered. He soon parted with his share in the newspaper, however, to Mr. Tattersall, and retired into the county of Suffolk, of which he had been many years a magistrate. In a controversy respecting the committee of a lunatic, into which it was not necessary for the solicitor-general to enter, circumstances occurred which gave rise to the following libel, for which the defendant was responsible, as he had not given up its author; but of which the Solicitor-general did not suppose him to be the author: he only wished he could discover that author.

"We understand that Captain Benjafield, who was formerly editor of the *Morning Post*, has been charged by his brother magistrates for the county of Suffolk, with obtaining, during that editorship, an annuity from the Prince of Wales, for the suppressing of articles sent to that paper,

paper, reflecting upon his Royal Highness. This Mr. Benjafield positively denied for a time, but upon investigation, and upon the production of two explanatory letters from Earl Moira and Captain Coxhead, the fact was completely established. It is true that the annuity did not appear in the Prince's household accounts; but it was granted through Mr. Weljie to Mr. Tattersall, the other proprietor of the Morning Post; and from Mr. Tattersall, and subsequently to his death, from his executors, Mr. Benjafield has continued to receive the annuity for more than twenty years."

The publication of the libel, and the defendant's responsibility were first proved in the usual manner.

Mr. Wayman, clerk to the magistrates of the hundreds of Fingo and Thedwastry, in Suffolk, was then called upon; and Mr. Holt, leading counsel for the defendant, being permitted by the court to ask him whether he had ever heard the charge made against the plaintiff before it was brought by the defendant? he said that it was the subject of pretty general conversation previously to January, 1812.

After some technical objections had been disposed of, Mr. Holt addressed the jury in behalf of the defendant. He desired them to consider the present action as justified by a plea which he should presently prove, and that the question for their determination was, how much of rightful character the plaintiff had lost by this publication, and what was the value of that character? The defendant belonged to the same trade which the plaintiff had once exercised, and if he chose to hold up those

derelictions from principle by which the plaintiff had disgraced that trade to the warning and example of others, although he might have been called upon to answer criminally for such a libel, yet when civilly sued for damages, he had a right to set up this justification of truth. The learned counsel then proceeded to give a character of the plaintiff as he had been editor of the Morning Post, in which capacity he was in the habit of shooting at exalted persons under the shelter of innuendo; and he was proceeding to read paragraphs from that paper, when he was interrupted by the Solicitor-general, and was warned by Lord Ellenborough not to travel out of the record for the purpose of calumny. He then proceeded to observe upon the notoriety of the charge against the plaintiff, and its frequent discussion at Bury by the magistrates assembled there, by whom he was desired to purge himself of it. He alluded to the testimony of Lord Moira, shortly to be given, and concluded with considering the questions of malice, and of damage, arising out of the libel.

Lord Moira deposed, that in November, 1811, the plaintiff wrote to him to request a meeting, and at that interview mentioned the calumny which had been reported among his brother magistrates, respecting his having extorted from the Prince of Wales a sum of money, and grant of an annuity, as a consideration, for suppressing certain articles which he had threatened to publish in his newspaper relating to the Prince and Mrs. Fitzherbert. He stated to his lordship, that there was no foundation whatever for this calumny, which
had

had greatly injured him! and in order to rebut it, he entreated his lordship to furnish him with a testimonial that there was no foundation for the report. The plaintiff did not inform his lordship of any payments of annuity; on the contrary, it was the impression on his mind, that in the conversation he asserted that he had not received any such annuity; and this was stated by his lordship in the letter which he wrote on the occasion. Lord Moira had afterwards found reason to alter his opinion, and to write to the plaintiff, requesting the return of the letter which he had before written to him; and also to write to the chairman of the quarter sessions explaining the error into which he had been betrayed. He found that an annuity had been paid to the plaintiff, but there were circumstances which led him to think it possible that the plaintiff had not accurately ascertained the point of the annuity's coming directly from the Prince of Wales.

Mr. John Beardmore, executor to the late Mr. Richard Tattersall, said, that he paid an annuity to the plaintiff through the present Mr. Tattersall. The plaintiff drew upon Mr. Tattersall, and the witness reimbursed him. The witness was reimbursed from the duchy of Cornwall office by Mr. Gray. The plaintiff complained of the deduction of the property tax, by a letter to the witness, which was proved and read. After mentioning, that the annuity had been granted free of all taxes and deductions, and that if these had not been made, the amount would have been 400*l.* instead of 350*l.* it asserted, that if the deduction was

persisted in, he "should have no other mode than to complain to that personage on whose account the annuity was originally granted, and who had fully indemnified Mr. Tattersall."

Mr. Richard Tattersall confirmed what was said by the last witness respecting his payment of the annuity and reimbursement. It was admitted by the plaintiff that the payment was made out of the Prince's privy purse.

The Solicitor-general, in reply, observed, that it was notorious that the *Morning Post*, at the time of the plaintiff's secession, changed its politics to the anti-ministerial, and he attributed the annuity to the officious zeal of some of his Royal Highness's household in desiring Mr. Tattersall to make a bargain with the plaintiff, and get rid of him as editor. The question was, whether the annuity was granted for the suppression of paragraphs, of which no proof has been produced. The Prince might have considered himself as under an obligation to reimburse those who had foolishly been over zealous in his service.

Lord Ellenborough, in charging the jury, pointed out several material defects in the defendant's plea of justification; whence the question was reduced to one of damages merely, and it was for them to take into consideration the circumstances which should regulate those damages. It was clear that the publication was a libel, since it accused the plaintiff of the abominable crime of suppressing calumnious paragraphs for lucre. If such an imputation had been made upon a person of pure and entire fame, it would have detracted

tracted from that purity and integrity.

The jury, however, after a short consultation, found a verdict for the defendant.

MATRIMONIAL CAUSES.

Consistory Court, Doctors' Commons. — Pouget against Tomkins, January 31.—This was a proceeding at the instance of Dr. Joseph Pouget, of Blandford-street, St. Mary-le-bone, in the character of guardian to his son, William Peter Pouget, a minor, to annul a marriage between him and Lucretia Tomkins a servant in the family.

The grounds upon which the validity of the marriage was disputed were, the undue publication of the banns, and the minority of the youth, who was under 16 years of age at the time, the servant being upwards of 25. Evidence was brought to prove that the baptismal names of the minor were William Peter, but that from birth he had been called Peter only. With a view, however, to concealment, the name of William had been revived, and used singly for the publication of the banns, which, after an ineffectual attempt at Highgate, had been effected through the contrivance of the wife's brother-in-law at St. Andrew's Holborn, where the marriage was in consequence celebrated.

The plaintiff's counsel contended that the evidence afforded sufficient proof of fraud and clandestinity to render the marriage void under the statute 26 Geo. II. which laid it down, that the publication of banns should be in the true

christian and surnames of the parties, obviously meaning the names by which they were generally known. In the present case, indeed, the christian name used was the true one, but not the whole truth; and the omission coupled with the publication in a distant parish was manifest proof of a fraudulent intention.

The defendant's counsel admitted that the marriage act required the true names, but not all the names, and did not say that if any were omitted the marriage should be void, but merely that the minister should not be obliged to publish the banns. In this case the minister had published them, and had subsequently solemnised the marriage, after asking such questions as he thought proper. The act, therefore, could not now be called in question, though there was an irregularity in it.

Sir William Scott, after recapitulating the evidence, observed that it was a case of fraud, in which the wife and her brother-in-law were the principal agents. The minor himself, it appeared, gave the instructions for the banns, but that was not material, since the fraud was not upon him, but upon the natural rights possessed by every parent. The statute was intended to prevent clandestine and fraudulent marriages, and for that purpose required the true names of the parties. It does not, indeed, define what true names are, because that is comprehended in the proclamation of banns itself, which implies a public notification of an act about to take place, in order that, if an impediment should exist, the circumstance may be ascertained. A publication, therefore,

fore, in any other than the names by which the parties are known, has been justly considered as a fraud. In the present case, the question was, whether the omission was sufficient to nullify the publication? The court does not wish to go the length of saying, that where no fraud is intended, and all parties are consenting, the accidental omission of a name would render the marriage void, or that when one of the parties purposely concealed a name with a fraudulent intent on the other, such person could afterwards claim a remedy for his own bad act; but in a case where the suppression or assumption of a name is employed in conjunction with other acts for the express purpose of violating the civil rights of any individual, the court would feel itself called upon to enforce the letter of the law in support of its spirit. He then showed that the present case was evidently of that kind; being a combination to defeat the rights of a third person, the minor's father: and in consequence he pronounced the marriage void.

Consistory Court, Doctors' Commons, May.—Walker against Longstaff, falsely called Walker.—This was a proceeding originally brought by Mr. John Walker, senior, as guardian of his son Mr. John Walker, junior, a minor, and afterwards continued by the young gentleman himself on coming of age, for the purpose of annulling a marriage that had taken place by licence between him and Hannah Longstaff (who resided in the family in the capacity of lady's maid), on two grounds: 1st, The minority of the husband, and non-

consent of his father; and, 2ndly, the fraudulent procurement of the licence by some other person in the husband's name.

It appeared in evidence, that Mr. Walker was born on the 1st of August, 1788, and baptised on the 31st of October following; that the marriage took place in April, 1808, unknown to his father, and was communicated to him by an anonymous letter, some time in the course of the following autumn; that the father then expressed his surprise and displeasure at the event; and a few months afterwards brought the present suit. It was likewise proved by Mr. Walker junior's uncle and brother, that the signature to the affidavit was not of his hand-writing, and consequently that somebody must have personated him for the purpose of obtaining the licence. To repel this latter charge, the wife produced several of his letters, the signatures to which were compared with that to the affidavit by the inspector of handwriting to Powers of Attorney, &c. at the bank of England, who gave in evidence his opinion, that there was a sufficient resemblance to induce a belief that they were written by the same person. It was contended on the part of Mr. Walker, that the minority was fully proved; and as the father knew nothing of the marriage, he could not give the necessary antecedent consent, whatever might have been his opinion of the prudence of the act afterwards; that it was not necessary to prove his actual dissent, and if it was, even that might be collected from a plea of the wife's, which had been rejected by the court, in which she expressly states, that
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the father had often charged her with having seduced his son into the marriage in question; that her defence, founded on comparison of handwriting, was too fallacious to repel the positive oath of two persons well acquainted with Mr. Walker's handwriting; that the signature to the affidavit was not his; and therefore, as the two grounds upon which the suit rested were both fully established, its object of obtaining a nullity of the marriage must necessarily be successful.

On the part of the wife the proceeding was designated as a base attack upon her character in the question as to the forgery, arising solely from a conviction of the insufficiency of the evidence on that of the minority and non-consent. This insufficiency, it was contended, was apparent from the father's not having been produced as a witness, as his evidence would have placed the matter beyond a doubt: the law, indeed, required it; and the only inference to be drawn from a non-compliance with such a requisition, was, that the matter would not bear sifting to the bottom. In the absence of proof of non-consent which might have been produced, consent must be presumed, and the suit accordingly be dismissed.

Sir W. Scott over-ruled the doctrine that any proof of dissent was actually necessary; it was enough to show, on the part of the person holding the legal right of consent, an ignorance of the actual celebration of the marriage, as from that the presumption of his non-acquiescence in that species of antecedent consent required by the statute, must necessarily result.

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As this was the state of the present case, the other question as to the forgery, was not perhaps so material, though likewise sufficiently proved, and equally a ground of nullity. The objection founded upon the non-examination of the father was sufficiently answered by the fact of his being originally a party in the cause, and therefore not a competent witness to facts, upon which he was to obtain a remedy for a violation of his parental rights. Under these circumstances, therefore, the proof was complete, and the marriage must be accordingly pronounced null and void.

Court of Peculiars, Doctors' Commons, June 2.—Westfield falsely called Mould against Mould.—This was a proceeding at the instance of Miss Mary Faussett Westfield, of Barham in Kent, against Mr. Joseph Mould, for the nullity of a marriage that had taken place between them on the grounds of minority, and a want of legal consent.

It appeared that the parties first became acquainted whilst the young lady was on a visit to her sister at Dover; a correspondence ensued between them, on her return home, which led to a proposal of matrimony: this was discovered by her mother (who was married again, and with whom the young lady resided); but as the respectability of Mr. Mould's situation in life (he being in the army) precluded any objection to the match, it was finally resolved on, and the parties accordingly came to town, and were married at the parish church of St. Martin in the Fields, by virtue of a licence obtained for the purpose by Mr. Mould.

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In support of the suit, the mother of the minor, and several other witnesses, were examined, to prove the birth of the minor, on the 20th of July 1789; and her marriage, on the 9th of July, 1808, at which time she was not quite 19 years of age; the death of her father intestate; the re-marriage of her mother; and the non-appointment of any guardian by the Court of Chancery: and Sir John Nicholl observed, that these circumstances were so fully proved, and were so conclusive in themselves, that it would be quite useless to trouble counsel for any argument upon them. It clearly appeared, that this was a marriage contracted by the parties, under such circumstances, as must, in the present state of the law, render it void; and, however unwilling the court might feel, upon considerations of equity, to dissolve a contract of so important a nature, and which seemed to have been entered into with the concurrent consent of every one who might naturally be expected to have the right of consenting; yet as that was not a consent recognized by law, the court had no other alternative: there was nothing in the case from which the court could judge of the motives that dictated the present application to it, or whether there were any children to be injured by its decree. The suit was brought by the wife against the husband; and if he should sustain any injury from the result, he must attribute it to his own conduct, in asserting her majority upon oath, to obtain the licence for the marriage. The court pronounced, therefore, for the nullity of the marriage.

Court of Chancery, July 21.—Priestley v. Hughes.—A very important question on the construction of the marriage act has come before the Chancellor, by an appeal from the Rolls. Mr. Hughes, father of the defendant, married a Miss Roberts an illegitimate child, by licence, with the consent of the mother, the father being dead; and the defendant, a young lady about eighteen years of age, is the only issue of the marriage. The question is, whether the consent of the father or mother of an illegitimate minor, is sufficient to legalize a marriage of the minor under the marriage act. If the question is decided in the affirmative, the defendant will be entitled, by descent, to a fortune of 100,000*l.*; if in the negative, she will have nothing. The case was sent by the Master of the Rolls to the King's Bench. Three of the judges, Ellenborough, Le Blanc, and Bailey, certified that the marriage was not valid: Mr. Justice Grose, that it was valid; the case of illegitimate minors being *casus omissus* in that part of the act that relates to marriage by licence.

The Master of the Rolls concurred in opinion with the majority of the judges of the Court of King's Bench, and decided against the validity of the marriage. From this decision there is an appeal to the Chancellor, who promised soon to give his opinion; but expressed his hope that the subject would be carried to the House of Lords, as a question of this importance could not be too carefully examined. The matter rests here at present; but it was generally understood that there would be an appeal to the Lords.

Consistorial

Consistorial Commissary Court, Edinburgh, August.—Hillary v. Hillary.—This case was an action of divorce according to the laws of Scotland, the marriage having been contracted in England. The pursuer (plaintiff) was Dame Frances Elizabeth Hillary, and the defender, Sir William Hillary, of Danbury-place, Essex. The parties had been married in London, and lived several years together, during which time they had a son and two daughters. The husband at length, having got into debt, left England about four years since, and took up his residence in the Isle of Man. From thence he came to Scotland, and in March, 1811, was discovered residing at a hotel in Edinburgh, under the name of Hastings, in company with a young woman who was called Mrs. Hastings; and after living in different places as husband and wife, they fixed their abode within the sanctuary of Holyrood-house, where he resumed his proper name of Sir William Hillary, and his companion bore that of Mrs. Wilson. On these facts the pursuer brought her action of divorce, The defender being personally cited gave in a defence, both denying the libels, and objecting to the jurisdiction of the court. The cause being brought to a hearing, the defender endeavoured to show that the parties were not amenable in the Scots court of justice on account of a marriage contract in England. The commissaries, thereupon, 6th September, 1818, pronounced an interlocutor in the following terms: "That in respect the pursuer and defender are English, were married in England, and never lived together in Scotland as

husband and wife, and that it does not appear that the defender has taken up a fixed and permanent residence in this country; on the contrary, he himself describes his residence here as of a temporary nature, occasioned by the embarrassed state of his affairs, and meant to be continued only until that embarrassment was removed; find that this court is not competent to entertain the present action; therefore dismiss the same, and decern."

In this determination Mr. Commissary Ferguson differed from his brethren; and the judgment having been carried over to the supreme court by bill of advocation, which came before Lord Meadowbank, his lordship pronounced an interlocutor, remitting to the commissaries to alter their interlocutor, and sustain their jurisdiction. The case, accordingly, went back to the commissaries, and the acts of adultery being clearly established, the defender was found guilty of the same, and the divorce was declared.

Court of King's Bench, Nov. 12.—Doe, on the demise of Beavan v. Crew.—Mr. Serjeant Lens moved for a rule to show cause why the verdict for the defendant, in this ejectment case, should not be set aside, and a new trial granted. The action was tried before Mr. Baron Graham, at the last assizes for Salisbury; and the question was, whether the defendant was the legitimate son of John and Mary Crew? It appeared by the evidence of Ann Thompson, who was the daughter of the schoolmistress at Devizes, from whose school Mrs. Crew went to be married

ried, that she was in the 20th year of her age when she went away with Mr. Crew, who taught music at that school. Mrs. Crew gave out that she was going to Scotland to be married. She was absent with Mr. Crew about a fortnight, and they came back as man and wife, and lived together as such thenceforward, without any suspicion that they were not married; but Mrs. Crew declared herself that they had not been to Scotland. During this cohabitation as man and wife, the son was born, whose legitimacy was the question. Mr. and Mrs. Crew afterwards separated, upon the infidelity of the latter; and the former then allowed her an annuity, by way of separate maintenance for herself and children, appointing a person to pay it, and requiring her always personally to receive it. Mr. Sergeant Lens submitted, that as Mrs. Crew was at the time of her supposed marriage under age, and incapable of contracting matrimony without consent of parents, there should have been some evidence of the publications of banns, or some attempt to show an actual marriage, in point of law.

Lord Ellenborough said, that as this was a doubtful case, and if it should again go to a jury no new evidence was proposed, the court could not say the jury had decided wrongly. The husband recognised the wife 30 years, and paid her an annuity when she had left him as an adulteress, thus treating her still as his wife, when a man would be glad to repudiate such a connection, if it could be denied. This gave great countenance to the defendant's case: and if a little scope were given to the fortnight when

the parties were absent, it might be made to include three Sundays, upon which banns might have been published, and they might have been married according to the laws of England. In the absence of positive evidence, it was open to the jury to decide as they had decided; and if the lessee of the plaintiff were dissatisfied with the verdict, he might bring a fresh ejectment.

Mr. Justice Bayley. — The weight of evidence was against you. — *Rule refused.*

Arches' Court, Doctors' Commons, December 12. — Cooke v. Browning, falsely called Cooke. — This was a proceeding at the instance of Mr. James Stamp Sutton Cooke, of the parish of St. Sepulchre, London, for a sentence of the court, declaratory of the invalidity of his marriage with a Miss Jane Browning, of Hastingly in Kent, on the ground of his minority at the time, and a want of legal consent.

It appeared that Mr. Cooke was born in the month of April, 1780, and that the marriage took place by licence, in the month of September, 1799, when he was little more than 19 years of age; that his father (who was then living) was utterly ignorant of it, till after it had taken place, and then expressed his displeasure in the strongest terms, consoling himself at the same time with the reflection, that the absence of his consent rendered the marriage a mere nullity, and that he continued in these sentiments, and the communication of them to his friends, to the time of his death.

These circumstances were detailed in the evidence of several relatives

relatives and acquaintances of the parties, supported by the production of an entry of the minor's birth, made at the time, in a family Bible, the certificates of his baptism and marriage, and the original documents, authorising the grant of the licence, in which he was described as being above the age of twenty-one. It was likewise stated, that he is now a prisoner upon a charge of bigamy, founded upon the fact of his having contracted a second marriage, subsequent to the one in question; and that he was more particularly desirous of obtaining the sentence of the court, as it would avail him so materially in his defence.

The defendant's counsel admitted the sufficiency of the evidence adduced to prove the facts of minority, marriage, and non-consent; but relied upon it likewise to sustain his objection, that there was a failure of proof as to the plaintiff's identity.

Sir John Nicholl observed, that the peculiar situation of the plaintiff, though perhaps not so distinctly apparent from the evidence, as to come within the judicial cognizance of the court, was nevertheless sufficient to induce it to regard the present proceeding with a very jealous eye. If collusion was to be suspected in any case, it was surely in one like this; the common dictates of humanity were, in all probability, sufficient to induce the lady against whom the present proceeding was directed, to lend herself towards facilitating its success, great and painful as the sacrifice might be to herself. The court must, therefore, come to the consideration of the circumstances of the case, impressed with the

necessity of a rigid scrutiny, and regard the proceeding as being principally of an *ex parte* nature. He then recapitulated the facts detailed in evidence, and was of opinion that the proof was unusually strong in support of them, and that there was no foundation for the objection to the proof of identity: he therefore signed the sentence declaratory of the invalidity of the marriage.

MISCELLANEOUS CAUSES.

Court of King's Bench, Tuesday, January 14.—Special Jury.—Lesingham v. Fraser, and others.—This was an action for money had and received brought by the master of Sir John Cass's school at Aldgate, against his bankers, Mess. the late Hon. Simon Fraser, Sir John Perring, Bart. and Co. to recover a sum of 82*l.* 10*s.* alleged to have been paid them on his account, by the plaintiff, and the appearance of which, as a credit to the plaintiff's account in the bankers' books, was attributed by them to a mistake. On the part of the plaintiff was adduced the evidence of two boys, of the ages of 15 and 13, who in the year 1810, the time at which the sum in question was alleged to have been paid, were the plaintiff's scholars. Their names were Payne and Linde; and Lord Ellenborough observed, that the manner in which they gave their evidence was so unembarrassed and straight forward, as of itself to lead to no suspicion that their story was not true. They were perfect as to their recollection of the 24th of March, having been the day on which

which they twice went to the bankers to pay money for their master. The first time, they paid in 37*l.* the payment of which was allowed by the defendants. The second time, they counted over the sum of 82*l.* 10*s.* in the presence of Mr. Peacock, a baker, in Bishops-gate-street, who had called to pay their master money. It was Linde's first time of being in a banker's shop, and he took notice of the quantity of dollars which one of the clerks was counting; and observed to his companion, that the two which composed the 10*s.* they had to pay in would make two more. They took with them their master's pass-book; and the clerk, whom Payne afterwards singled out from the rest to be a gentleman of the name of Kent, wrote in it, and returned it to the boys. Mr. Peacock was present when the lads returned, and asked the plaintiff how he could trust them to pay so much money. The plaintiff replied, that he was in the habit of doing so, and showed Peacock the entry in the pass-book, to convince him that he had not unworthily reposed his confidence in them. Mr. Peacock confirmed the testimony of the boys, and added, that he paid 76*l.* to the plaintiff on the 24th, the day in question; but it did not appear whether any of this money formed a part of the 82*l.* On the contrary, some notes indorsed "Peacock," in his brother's hand-writing, were produced by the defendants, as forming part of a subsequent payment of 28*l.* 1*s.* made by the plaintiff to them on the 26th following. Strong in favour of an actual payment to the defendants by the plaintiff as was

this evidence, yet Lord Ellenborough observed, that if from documents in the defendants' business it could be proved to be impossible to be true, the jury would be compelled to disregard it, and to find their verdict for the defendants. On their part were called Mr. Kent, and all the clerks implicated, who swore they never received the sum in question from the boys, although the fact of their paying the first sum of 37*l.* was recollected and admitted; and it appeared by the pass-book which Mr. Peacock swore to have seen on the 24th, that the entry was not made till the 26th, on which day it was dated; and the defendants' clerks swore that the plaintiff's name had been given to them by their principals, as having overdrawn his account, and was written down by them to be kept in mind. Being thus impressed upon their memory when a cheque for 82*l.* 10*s.* was on the 26th paid into the account of another customer (Mr. Shenstone), they by mistake attributed it to the plaintiff, and thus it found its way from their waste book into the plaintiff's pass-book, and their ledger. It was proved how Mr. Shenstone had received and paid the cheque just mentioned; and the error was not rectified till he found that it had been omitted in his account. The same sum could not have been also paid by the plaintiff, and purloined by any of the bankers' clerks, except he had made three different thefts: one of the large notes from one drawer, another of the small notes from one partition of another drawer, and a third of the cash from the other partition: and it was proved, that there was no error
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in the defendants' balance on that day. Mr. Topping, for the plaintiff, rested his case upon the alternative, that if it were not true, the plaintiff had suborned three persons to perjure themselves, two of them ingenious and well-educated boys; and attributed the defendants' denial of it to a mistake, of which they were not conscious, in the hurry of business upon a Saturday, as the 24th was; and that, the Saturday before they moved their banking business to another shop on the Monday following. The Attorney-General and Mr. Garrow, were for the defendants. The jury, after retiring for some time, found their *verdict for the defendants*.

Court of King's Bench, Friday, Feb. 7.—The King, v. the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishop of London.—This was a rule *nisi* for a *mandamus*, calling upon the defendants, or one of them, to hear, examine, and determine, in order to license the Rev. R. Povah, LL. D. to preach the Friday morning lecture, at the parish church of St. Bartholomew, Exchange, London. The lectureship was endowed in 1625, with 25*l.* a year out of lands, and the choice of the lecturer was given by the founder to the inhabitants of the parish. Upon the last vacancy, Mr. Shepherd, the rector of the parish, Dr. Povah, and another person, were candidates, and the Doctor was chosen by a majority of the parishioners. Upon tendering himself to the Bishop to be licensed, it was objected to him that he had preached against the doctrine of infant baptism; a charge which the

Doctor denied, and the author of which he requested to know. This information was refused, and Dr. Povah attended the Bishop with the notes of the sermon, which had been thus misrepresented; and the Bishop appeared satisfied on that head; but objected to him that he was only in deacon's orders, and had in that capacity outstretched his authority in reading the absolution. This practice Doctor Povah justified, by the directions of the rubrick; and as to the competency of his orders to warrant the licence in question, Dr. Povah got himself forthwith ordained a priest in full orders, although, as the Bishop alleged, and the applicant denied, this was done in an irregular way. This, and much more, appeared by many affidavits on both sides: the Doctor had produced to the bishop three different sets of testimonials, his lordship having objected to the testimony of some, and persuaded the withdrawalment of others: finally, Dr. Povah attended his lordship with his perfect testimonials, and his certificate of priest's orders, and offered to read and subscribe the thirty-nine articles, as required by the act of uniformity, 13 and 14 Car. II. c. 4. sec. 19. when the Bishop's objections were at last resolved into this; that he did not approve of Dr. Povah as a fit person. The doctor thereupon, called upon his lordship to specify the reasons of that objection, and had tendered himself to submit to any examination which the Bishop thought proper to institute, but his lordship had not thought proper to institute such examination, or to specify the reasons of his refusal to license the applicant,

applicant, otherwise than by a general declaration of his unfitness: and had refused to convene his accusers before his lordship, so that the applicant might have an opportunity of meeting them. A letter was recited, dated the 9th April, 1810, from the Bishop to the church-warden, stating, that Dr. Povah was only in deacon's orders, and that it was customary to elect the rector (Mr. Shepherd) if there should be no valid objection against him; and also a letter from his lordship, dated the 21st of the same month, and addressed to Dr. Povah, telling him that it was in a sermon preached a month before that which he had justified, that the doctrines against infant baptism were imputed to him. It also appeared, that Dr. Povah had written a letter to the Bishop of Sodor and Man, in which he accused the Bishop of London of refusing his licence, only because his relation, by marriage, Mr. Shepherd, was not elected. This Dr. Povah now attributed to common report, and could not tell from whom he had heard it.

In Easter term, 1811, the court refused a *mandamus* to the Bishop alone, unless it could be shewn that the like application had also been made to the Archbishop, and rejected by him; the act of uniformity enacting, that no person should be allowed to preach as a lecturer in any church, &c. "unless he be first approved, and thereunto licensed by the Archbishop of the province, or the Bishop of the Diocese." (13 East. 419.)

Mr. Attorney-General, Mr. Dampier, and Mr. Abbott, now shewed cause against the rule *nisi*, which had, after much delibera-

tion, been granted against both the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishop of London. The *mandamus* would command them to do what they had already done; for the Bishop stated in an answer to the rule, that the applicant had been repeatedly admitted before him, with a view to being licensed; that his lordship had made diligent inquiry into the applicant's conduct, and being in his conscience convinced that he was an improper person to be so licensed to the lectureship for which he applied, had thought it right to reject him. And the Attorney-General submitted that the Bishop had a right to abide by his own judgment, formed as it was upon fair and solid grounds. The Archbishop (for the present rule was addressed both to one and the other), stated his respect for every rule of this court, and his anxiety to perform what the law required of him; but his Grace held it his duty to refer the court to the act of uniformity, and to what had been the invariable practice under it, and to lay before the court his impression of the line which he ought to pursue, leaving it to their wisdom to direct him. The repositories and muniments at Lambeth palace had been searched, and there was no instance in which a licence had been applied for to the Archbishop under the circumstances of the present case; and the Attorney-General submitted (and his Grace submitted through him), that it never could have been the intention of the legislature to grant an appeal from the judgment of an Archbishop to that of a Bishop; as would be the consequence of the prevalence of

of that construction for which the applicant contended. The act represented the licence as necessary from either the Archbishop or the Bishop; and there was nothing to prevent an applicant, if he had made an application to the Archbishop in the first instance, from appealing to the Bishop in the second, provided this doctrine of appeal were to be allowed, which would be an anomaly in law. The Attorney-General contended, that an applicant had only an election, whether to apply to the Archbishop or to the Bishop, and having made that election in favour of the Bishop, he could not appeal to the Archbishop; just as if he had elected the Archbishop, he most certainly could not appeal to the Bishop.

The applicant produced the affidavits of twenty-seven persons, who pretended to swear to the words of a sermon preached by Dr. Povah more than two years ago; and one of these persons made oath that such was the effect of the sermon upon him, that he immediately had a child baptized, in whose case that ceremony had been delayed; but this person waited till another child was born, before he had this done; and before that event, too, a rule had been obtained from this court, between the proceedings upon which he had interpolated the baptism of this child. Besides the affidavit of Dr. Hall, who took down a note of this sermon by Dr. Povah at the time, the Attorney-General had now the affidavit of the Rev. W. McGregor, who expressly swore that it was not the doctrines of others against infant baptism which Dr. Povah had stated

with disapprobation, but that those doctrines came from himself; and that he not only denied the importance of infant baptism, but of any baptism at all, and that not in the church, in which the applicant's witnesses had heard him, but in another. His denial of these doctrines reminded the Attorney-General of a story of a nurse, who, in cutting some bread and butter for a child, happened to let the bread fall, and exclaimed in a pet, "rot the loaf;" the child reported the exclamation to her mother; when the nurse not only denied that she had used those words, but declared herself to have said, "bless the bread."

The Attorney-General and Mr. Dampier then proceeded to quote and comment upon the decisions of Lord Chief Justice Holt, in 12 Modern, 433, of Powell, J. 2 Lord Raymond, 1205; and to cite the cases in 3 Salkeld, 87, 4 Burrow 2045, &c. and argued that the matter was of ecclesiastical jurisdiction, and that it could not be taken thence, and sent to a jury under a *mandamus* from this court. The licence expressed approbation, which was an act of the mind, and how could the Court of King's Bench command the licenser to express a full confidence in the morals, learning, doctrine, and diligence of a man, which he did not possess?

Mr. Garrow, Mr. C. Warren, Mr. Comyn, and Mr. Brougham, *contra*, contended that the *mandamus* only required the Bishop to hear, and that the applicant had not yet been heard in any sense of the word hearing, which came within the justice of a British court. They quoted a variety of cases,

cases, and relied mainly on a decision of Lord Mansfield, in the *King v. Blower*, 2 Bur. 1043. Mr. Brougham's argument was succinct and masterly; he took a distinction between the rights of holy orders, and of enjoying the profits attached to them; and argued, that as a patron had the remedy of *quare impedit* against the Bishop who refused to induct his clerk, it could never be the intention of the legislature to leave a lecturer alone at the mercy of the Bishop,—that the burthen of showing Dr. Povah's unfitness lay with those who denied it; and that the applicant came before the court with every claim to their favour, both in point of character (which he rejoiced in this opportunity of setting right with the public) and in point of the justice he claimed.

The court deferred its judgment on account of the lateness of the hour (5 o'clock).

On the following day, Lord Ellenborough delivered the judgment of the court. He had looked minutely through the affidavits on both sides, and since it would be convenient that the decision of so important a case should not be delayed, he should proceed to give the result of the opinion upon this case of all the judges of the court. By the act of uniformity, 13 and 14 Ch. II. c. 4. sect. 19, it was enacted, that no person should be allowed to preach as a lecturer, in any church, &c. unless he be first approved, and thereunto licensed by the Archbishop of the province, or Bishop of the diocese, or (in case the see be void) by the guardian of spiritualities, &c.; and the question was, what

approval the bishop (to whom in this instance Dr. Povah's application was made and refused) should bestow, and on what grounds he should be required to license the applicant. It was a condition precedent to the granting of the licence, that the Bishop should first approve. It had been endeavoured in argument to liken this office of lecturer to a benefice, into which the clerk was instituted by the Bishop, and to the cases of perpetual curates and schoolmasters, in respect of whom the provisions in the acts of parliament widely differed from those in this act of uniformity. Certain *dicta* of judges had also been quoted by the learned counsel for the present applicant, with not one of which the court were now prepared to differ. It was the duty of the court to see that others exercised their duty, as far as the means of the court would allow; and if the Bishop of London had not considered the case of the present applicant, there might have been some grounds for granting the *mandamus*. It appeared from some of the affidavits before the court, that the Bishop of London had first stated the ground of his refusing Dr. Povah's license to be, that he was only in deacon's orders; and it was said, that the applicant had removed that objection by the ordination to priest's orders, of the Bishop of Sodor and Man (how obtained his lordship would not inquire); and that then the objection was first stated to him that he had preached against certain doctrines of the church of England. But this was no new ground of objection of which Dr. Povah was not before apprised;
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for it appeared by the defendant's affidavits, that the objection had been very early made to him; and the rule to show cause had produced the following answer from the Bishop. By his first affidavit, he stated that his sole reason for refusing the licence was a conscientious opinion and conviction arising from every circumstance of the case, and from the most diligent inquiry into the applicant's conduct as a clergyman, that he could not, consistently with the duties of his office, approve of him; and that he had thus acted, solely from a conscientious discharge of the duties of his office, which required him to approve of none whom he did not conscientiously believe to be a fit person to discharge the duties of the office of lecturer. His second affidavit, in return to the rule *nisi*, which required him to show cause against a *mandamus*, to hear and determine, with a view to licence, stated, that he had repeatedly admitted the applicant before him, and had made the most diligent inquiry into his claims, and that the result of that inquiry was a conviction that the applicant was not a fit person to discharge the duties of a lecturer; and that, from a conscientious discharge of the duties of his office, and from no other motive or reason whatsoever, he could not approve or license him as such lecturer; and that he had formed and adhered to this determination, upon a full consideration of the case, according to the best of his judgment, and could not in his conscience believe that the applicant was a fit person to discharge the duties of the office of lecturer.

If the court had granted a *mandamus* to the Bishop in the first instance, surely this would have been a conclusive return to it, unless the court were prepared to say that the function of approval was vested in them, and not in the Bishop; and that, notwithstanding his conviction, he should be compelled to license; that he should approve, though he did not approve; that he should adopt the reasoning of the court, and the conscience of the court, in despite of his own head and his own heart. The court could not transfer to themselves a power which was for wise purposes granted to another, and a *mandamus* to such an effect had never yet been moved for. All the cases cited yesterday, and on former occasions, were cases where there arose some objection, on the score of the rector or vicar to the use of the pulpit; the objections came from another quarter, and not from the Bishop *per se*. The *mandamuses* were granted to the Bishop to license, *pro forma*, in order to get at the right of the party. The court had never acted upon the conscience of the Bishop, and compelled him to license when his refusal was conscientious; but it was said to be the business and duty of the Bishop to inquire into the applicant's case in a sort of judicial mode, as the courts of law would, by the adduction of evidence, and by a public hearing. What power had the Bishops to compel such evidence? How could they administer an oath? How could they do more than express the approbation of their conscience duly informed on the subject? The utmost the court could do would be

be to give them an admonition, and a solemn call to inform their conscience on the subject. A lectureship was not like a temporal inheritance, in which the patron of a living had a right to the induction of his clerk, unless the Bishop should return a decided cause of unfitness. The statute *Articuli Cleri* gave the examination to an ecclesiastical judge; and, in the case of presentation to a benefice, the Bishop must certainly state the cause of his refusal; but there was nothing which directed this in the act of uniformity. The office of lecturer was only engrafted on a foundation, whereby the spiritual wants of the parish were already in part supplied; and it became the wisdom (certainly it did the jealousy) of the legislature after the then recent contentions in the church, to invest the licensing of lecturers in the Bishops. The analogy, therefore, did not hold between them and the cases arising from the institution of regular beneficed clergymen.

His lordship then proceeded to consider some of the cases which had been quoted, and to show their diversity from the present. He then said, the fact was, that the Bishop of London had very early objected to Dr. Povah, on the score of his doctrines; but as he discovered he was only in deacon's orders, he very naturally wished to object to license him upon the least obnoxious ground, and to perform his duty in the least harsh and objectionable form. The letter respecting the heterodox sermon was written from James Hall, of Walthamstow, to Dr. Hall, as early as the 24th of November, 1809; and this could

not have been meant to apply to impede Dr. Povah's licence to the lectureship, which did not become vacant till March, 1810. When the Bishop became acquainted with this letter did not exactly appear; but it was sent by Dr. Hall to the Bishop's secretary, and was most likely communicated to the Bishop before Dr. Povah's first application, although it appeared that upon that first application the Bishop did not immediately recollect the circumstance; but when he was reminded of it by his secretary, was it not imperative upon him to resist the application? The Bishop exercised a very proper discretion in refusing at the time to disclose to Dr. Povah the name of his accuser, but it was now before the court, Dr. Hall's affidavit being confirmed by that of another person, the Rev. Mr. Macgregor. If, therefore, the court were trying the fact of Dr. Povah's fitness (which Lord Ellenborough disclaimed their right to do), the question would be, whether the affidavits of these gentlemen were to be believed, who did hear the doctrines imputed, or those of the greater number who swore they did not. Besides the maxim, that in all cases negative evidence was not so strong as positive, there must be many things which passed in a sermon that the majority of an audience overlooked: and the deponents on the part of the applicant were persons who, from their class and condition in life, could not be supposed to be such accurate observers, or to have such a knowledge of the application of a sermon to the doctrines of the church, as the two reverend gentlemen who came forward in
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the defendant's affidavits. At any rate, with such evidence before him, might not the Bishop be in reasonable suspense? It had been said, that he had renounced the ground of objection, on the score of the applicant's doctrines, and was perfectly satisfied with a sight of his MS. short-hand notes of a sermon, in which no such doctrine appeared. But it would be recollected, that he afterwards wrote to the applicant, informing him that it was to a sermon preached a month before that, that his information alluded. The applicant's case had been attempted to be confirmed by the disclosure of very important matter: it was said, that not only had he not preached against infant baptism, but that his sermon in enforcement of the necessity of that sacrament, had had the effect of electrifying the consciences of four of his auditors, who all immediately set about to rectify their remissness in this particular, and to get their children baptized upon the instant. This case was very unfortunately proved; for although the sermon was preached in October, 1809, there was no registry of the baptism of a child of Hardy, the first witness throughout the years 1808, 9, 10, and 11; and the witness Pollard lay by till the 31st of March, 1811, and then had two children baptized, together, the first being two years and ten days old. The witness Thomas Hart had also two children baptised on the 5th of May, 1811, the first of whom was born on the 1st of August, 1809, and the second on the 30th of March, 1811. Supposing, therefore, this court were sitting at

nisi prius, how would such evidence be received? And could the court dictate the manner of its acting on the Bishop's conscience? If so much of the evidence on the part of the applicant was at least improbable, did it not show that the Bishop might with more safety repose on the truth of his other information? So much might be said, if the court were trying the fitness of the applicant, instead of the Bishop approving it: but the Bishop had returned the applicant to the court, by his affidavit, as generally unfit; and unless they should think themselves warranted in assuming a power which the legislature had exclusively placed in the breast of another, in saying, that the Bishop had not inquired, had not examined, and in calling for evidence, and placing themselves in the Bishop's place, *quoad* the approval, they could not overturn his refusal. They were required to repeal an act of parliament, and violate a Bishop's conscience. Their refusal to grant the *mandamus* contravened no decision, and ran counter to the *dictum* of any one judge who ever sat on the bench. The rule divided itself into two parts; the latter respecting the Archbishop of Canterbury, who had, no doubt, a function to exercise in such a case, and to whom it was doubtless competent to apply, but not *inverso ordine*. Taking into their consideration the returns of both the defendants to the rule, in which the Archbishop's name was only introduced in a late stage of the business, as the question was new, and not upon the court's perfect satisfaction that his Grace's name ought

ought to have been included, the court as to both defendants, *discharged the rule*,

The Attorney-General asked for costs to the Bishop, since the first rule as to him was discharged; and it was very hard that he should bear all the subsequent expense, in a case in which the court had decided with him at first.

Lord Ellenborough said, that as this was the first case in which this very question had come before the court, howsoever proper it might otherwise be, he was not inclined to give costs. Not so, if the question came again before the court.

Case on a Bet.—Gilbert v. Sykes.

—At the York assizes in March a trial came on in which the Rev. B. Gilbert was plaintiff, and Sir Mark M. Sykes, Bart. defendant. It appeared that the Baronet, at his own table in a dinner party, during a conversation respecting the hazard to which the life of Buonaparté was exposed had offered, upon the receipt of 100 guineas, to pay a guinea a day as long as he should remain alive. Mr. Gilbert suddenly took up the offer; but finding that the sense of the company was against making a serious matter of a bet, proposed at a moment of conviviality, he said, "If you will submit, Sir Mark, to ask it as a favour, you may be off." This the baronet refused to do; the 100 guineas were sent by Mr. G. of which Sir M. acknowledged the receipt, and he had continued paying the guinea a day for nearly three years. At length he declined further payment, and this action was for

recovery of the sum still due upon the contract.

Mr. Topping, for the defendant, contended first, that there was no serious intention of betting on the part of Sir M. Sykes, but that he was surprised by the hasty acceptance of the offer by the clergymen. He then, on the supposition that it was regarded as a real bet, advanced an argument, that Mr. Gilbert having thus a beneficial interest in the life of Buonaparté, might be induced, in case of his invading this island, to use means for protecting from personal danger an inveterate enemy of his country.

The judge, after stating the evidence to the jury, with his observations, left them to decide the fact, whether there was an intention of betting on the part of Sir M. Sykes, and reserving the point of law. The jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

On April 16th the case was brought before the King's Bench, where Mr. Park moved for a rule to show cause why the verdict for the defendant should not be set aside, and a new trial granted, the verdict having been found against all the evidence produced. He recapitulated the circumstances of the transaction, and said that Baron Thompson, in his charge to the jury, had treated the contract rather as for an annuity than a wager; and however hastily it had been adopted by the plaintiff, put it to them whether it had not been persisted in by the defendant. It was no wager that Buonaparté would come to his end by violent means.

Lord Ellenborough, in granting the rule, said, that he was very
sorry

sorry this question should come to be argued in a court of law; but unless there was in the nature of the bet, any thing of an immoral or impolitic tendency, it was a legal contract, and must be supported. He would not declare what relief might be obtained elsewhere under all the circumstances; but as the defendant went on paying for three years, the fact of the contract seemed to be clearly established, and the jury had certainly gone beyond their province in finding for the defendant.

The case was again brought under consideration before the Court of King's Bench on June 11 and 12. After the counsel had held their arguments respecting the nature of the contract, and the interest of the parties in the event which was its subject, Lord Ellenborough said, that although the court might differ as to the grounds of their opinion, they all concurred that no new trial ought to be granted in this case. The objection to this wager was its tendency to produce public mischief. At a time when the enemy's threats of invasion were annual, and deprecated weekly in every church, could it be said that in the event of Buonaparté's landing, the interest of 365 guineas per ann. to preserve his life was too remote? Besides, one great object of the nation ought to be to obviate the suspicion of attempting the assassination of Buonaparté, with which it had (he hoped unjustly) been charged; and to prevent a war of assassination, with which any attempt of that kind would not fail to be revenged. He could not say that the verdict for the defendant was proper on the ground that the bet was not deliberately entered into; but look-

ing into all the circumstances of the conversation upon which this contract was founded, and the contract itself, he thought the rule for a new trial ought to be discharged.

The other three judges delivered a similar opinion, and the rule was accordingly discharged.

Literary Property.—In the Court of Session at Edinburgh, on the 2nd of March, a cause was tried of considerable importance to literary property, in the case, Cadell and Davies v. Robertson:

Mr. Creech bought the copyright of Burns's Poems, which were first published in 1786; and as Burns died in 1796, the copyright expired, of course, in fourteen years from the date of their first publication. In 1793, a new edition of Burns's Poems was published, with some additional poems which had never before appeared. These last, however, were not entered in Stationers' Hall. In the year 1800, another edition of Burns's works was published by Mr. Creech of Edinburgh, and Messrs. Cadell and Davies, London, with a life of the author prefixed, by Dr. Currie. This edition included the additional poems, first published in 1793, but was not entered in Stationers' Hall.

In 1802, when the exclusive privilege had expired, Mr. J. Robertson, bookseller, Edinburgh, published a small edition of the Poems of Burns, in which he included some of those new poems by the author, in 1793; upon which Messrs. Cadell and Davies, and Mr. Creech, applied by bill of suspension, for an interdict, and at the same time raised an action against Mr. Robertson, concluding
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not for penalties, but for damages, on account of the infringement on their property, by publishing these additional poems, the copyright of which had not yet become free. The bill of suspension and interdict was passed, and conjoined with the action of damages.

This action the Court of Session decided (16th May, 1804) by recalling the interdicts, sustaining the defences against the action of damages, and assolzieving the defender; to which interlocutor, on its being again brought under their consideration, they adhered.

The pursuers complained against these judgments to the House of Lords, when it was decided (16th July, 1811), that

“ Although no person trenching on literary property is liable to any of the penalties or forfeitures thereby enacted, unless the titles to the copies of such books shall, before publication, be entered in the register book of the company of stationers, as by the said act is directed; yet, that the persons to whom the sole liberty of printing books is thereby given for the term or terms therein mentioned, have, by the said statute, a right vested in them, entitling them to maintain a suit for damages in case of a violation of such right, and also entitling them to maintain a suit in order to prevent the violation thereof, by interdict for the term or terms for which the statute hath given them such sole liberties, although there shall not have been such entry made before publication, as aforesaid: and it is hereby ordered, that with this declaration the said cause be remitted back to the Court of Session in Scotland, to review the interlocutors complain-

ed of, and further to do therein what may be meet.”

In virtue of the declaration and remit contained in the judgment of the House of Lords above recited, the pursuers presented a petition to the Court of Session, praying their Lordships to review the before-recited interlocutors, and to do in the cause as to their lordships should seem meet. The court, in applying the principles laid down in the judgment of the House of Lords (Jan. 24, 1812), altered their former interlocutors, found damages due, and remitted the case to the Lord Ordinary, to ascertain the *quantum*.

It may now, therefore, be held, as law in Scotland, as it has long been in England, that authors or their assignees have a statutory right to their literary property for fourteen or twenty-eight years, as the case may be, which entitles them to prosecute for damages at common law, all who may violate that right, though their works may not have been entered in Stationers' Hall; such entries being only necessary to entitle them to recover the statutory penalties.

Trial of John Bellingham for the murder of the Rt. Honourable Spencer Perceval.—Old Bailey, May 15.—Before the prisoner was called upon to plead, his counsel, Mr. Alley, rose to make application for the postponement of the trial, founded upon statements which went to show that he could be proved insane, if sufficient time were allowed for witnesses to appear. It was ruled, however, that this was not the time for such application, and that the prisoner must first plead to the indictment.

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This was then read, containing three counts, and charging him in the usual form with the murder. The prisoner listened with great attention, and when the question, guilty or not guilty, was put to him, he spoke shortly, complaining of the hurrying on of his trial, and that the documents on which alone he could rest his defence had been taken from him, and were in the possession of the crown. The court, however, insisted upon his pleading, which he did, "not guilty:" the Attorney-general then said, that copies of the papers had been offered to the prisoner, and that he had been told they themselves should be given him at his trial.

Mr. Alley then rose, and after adverting to the disagreeable duty he had to perform, from which, however, he would not shrink, he contended that the jury ought not to be sworn in this case, if he could produce affidavits to prove that the prisoner was not competent to rational actions, or in a state to meet this charge *sui juris*. He then alluded to the affidavits to be offered, and hoped time might be granted that it might be seen whether the facts mentioned in them could be substantiated by evidence or not. Mr. Garrow denied that even this was the proper stage of the trial for the counsel's speech in defence, and this opinion being confirmed by the Recorder, the first affidavit was read alone.

The Attorney-general then argued against the application. He treated the affidavits with severity, as a flimsy contrivance to defeat the ends of immediate justice. He desired the court to recollect the manner in which the prisoner had

just addressed them, and also the studious anxiety which his counsel had betrayed to prevent him from addressing their lordships; and asked why medical men, eminent for their knowledge on the subject of insanity, had not been called upon; and why others had not been applied to who had been acquainted with the prisoner during his last four months residence in London?

Mr. Alley gave the shortness of the preparatory time as a reason for those omissions. He had received his instructions only the evening before.

The court refusing the application, the jury was called to be sworn; but the counsel for the crown challenging the first person named, Mr. Alley contended that the crown had no right to challenge, without stating *cause or no cause*. This opinion was strongly controverted, and the court having established the right of general challenge without stating cause, seven persons named were peremptorily challenged, after which a jury of twelve was sworn.

After Mr. Abbot had opened the pleadings, the Attorney-General addressed the court and jury. He said he should not enter into the life of the prisoner further than concerned the act for which he was arraigned. He was by profession a merchant, and was considered as of such perfect understanding, as not only to transact his own affairs, but to be intrusted with those of others. Three or four years ago he went to Russia for a house in the north, charged with a commission of importance. He had not been long there before he preferred a complaint of the Russian

sian government to Lord Leveson Gower, by whom it was neglected. He returned to England, where he followed his mercantile pursuits, and found persons ready to avail themselves of his ability and experience. It, however, entered into his head that this government was bound to take cognizance of his case, and remunerate him for his losses in Russia; he therefore applied to the ministers, who, after examination, finding that his claims had no foundation in justice, paid no further attention to them. He then drew up a petition to parliament, and applied to Mr. Perceval in order to obtain his countenance to it. This Mr. Perceval refused, and from that moment the desire of revenge seems to have got possession of his heart. The Attorney-general then gave a brief account of the circumstances of the murder, which, he said, they would have in detail from the witnesses; and the fact being out of doubt, he proceeded to consider the question of insanity. Here, said he, is a man who has always had the management of his own concerns, of which no attempt has been made from any part of his family to deprive him. He has passed through life without the least blemish on his understanding; with what colour therefore can it be now pretended that he is not an *accountable* being? They who make the affidavits are unable to deny that he conducted his own affairs, and those of others. If it could be proved that he laboured under an absence of mind at the time he committed the act, nothing could lie against him; but it was a new argument, that the extraordinary wickedness of the act should be

the very reason why the perpetrator should not be answerable for it. He then put the supposition, that just at the time the prisoner was about to inflict the fatal blow, some providential interposition should have prevented its effect, and that on the same morning he should have made his will, and that its validity had afterwards been disputed in a court of justice on the ground of insanity: would any court allow the legality of such a plea? would not the general habit of his mind and rationality of his actions outweigh any consideration of insanity attached to this single act? The question is simply this—whether a person like the prisoner at the bar be at the time of the commission of his act capable of distinguishing between right and wrong? If he be capable, the law renders him criminally responsible for it. Even where the law has taken from a man the administration of his affairs, he may still have the power of judging between right and wrong in criminal cases, and therefore be responsible for criminal acts. The learned gentleman, to prove this point, went into a detail of the cases of Arnold condemned for the murder of Lord Onslow, and Lord Ferrers for that of his steward; and applied them to the present, as affording a plea of defence which did not exist in this case; wherefore, if the jury thought with him, they must find a verdict of guilty.

The witnesses were then called; but as the circumstances of the fact have been related in our Chronicle, and were undisputed, we shall not here repeat them.

The evidence for the crown being closed, the prisoner was called upon

upon for his defence. He proposed to leave it to his counsel, but was informed that they were not allowed to address the court in his defence. He then addressed the jury in a speech of an hour's continuance, interspersed with the reading of the documents which were restored to him in the court, and commenting upon them. He thanked the Attorney-general for his resistance to the plea of insanity set up by his counsel; because, if it had succeeded, it would not have answered the purpose of justification. He was obliged to his counsel for their intentions, but said that he had never incurred the charge of insanity, with the exception of a single instance in Russia, when the pressure of his sufferings had exposed him to that imputation. As to the lamentable catastrophe for which he was brought on his trial, no one could feel deeper sorrow for it than he did; and he solemnly disclaimed any personal or premeditated malice towards Mr. Perceval, on whom the unfortunate lot had fallen, only as a leading member of an administration which had refused him redress for his unparalleled wrongs. He then entered into a detail of the injuries he had experienced, which it is not necessary here to relate, as having nothing to do with the crime he had perpetrated, further than to shew the deep impression it had made on his mind; and he concluded with expressing his confidence that it was impossible by the laws of his country to convict him of the crime of wilful murder, unless it could be proved that he had malice prepense against the unfortunate gentleman, which he utterly denied.

Three witnesses were then called,

the first and principal of whom, Mrs. Phillips, said, that she had known him from his childhood; that his father died insane, and that he himself had all his life been in a state of derangement, particularly since he came from Russia, and whenever he talked on this subject for the last three years. The second stated her opinion of his insanity for the last two years. The maid of the house where he lodged, in Millman-street, deposed that she thought his manner confused and deranged for some time past, but admitted that he had always been respected in the house as a regular and orderly person.

Sir James Mansfield charged the jury nearly to the same effect as the Attorney-general's speech. They retired for a short time, and then returned with a verdict of *guilty*. The judge then passed sentence of death on the criminal, to be executed on the Monday following.

Prerogative Court, Doctors' Commons, June 3.—Garnham v. Clarke and King.—This was a proceeding relative to the validity of the will of Benjamin Garnham, a man of rather singular character, who, by selling gingerbread about the streets, had contrived to amass considerable property. Two testamentary papers, each of them asserted to be the will of the deceased, formed the subject in question; the one dated the 6th of October, 1810, principally in favour of his wife; and the other, dated the 16th of October following, principally in favour of Messrs. Charles Lewan Clarke, and Thomas King, two of his acquaintances.

In support of the first will, evidence was adduced to prove the testator's

testator's regard for his wife, and his testamentary intention towards her; that Mr. Clarke having, by incessant importunity, persuaded him to make a will, on the 1st. of Oct. 1810, produced to him one ready prepared for the purpose; which, on his representation alone, that it was conformable to his intentions in favour of his wife, he regularly executed, but afterwards suspecting he had been imposed upon, he sent for a professional man to read it over, and explain it to him; when his suspicions being confirmed, he immediately cancelled it, and executed the one, dated the 6th October, in favour of his wife; that on the 13th of October following, he, in a fit of insanity, cut his throat, and mangled himself in other parts of his body, and was taken to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, whither he was followed by the importunity of Mr. Clarke; who, on the 16th, about three hours before his death, when in great agony, and in a state of utter incapacity, procured his signature to another will, almost wholly in favour of himself and King, the validity of which was now disputed on that ground. A coroner's inquest afterwards sat upon the body, and a verdict of lunacy was returned; and it was contended, that the evidence fully proved these facts; that the case of the adverse parties was one originating in fraud, and carried on by importunity; and that their witnesses, in their eagerness to speak up to its exigencies, had gone too far, and completely overturned it; that the second will must therefore be pronounced against, and the first declared valid, with costs.

In support of the latter will,

Messrs. Clarke and King's evidence had for its object to shew, that the testator disliked its wife, and lived unhappily with her, and that he had a great regard for Clarke and King; that though he was a lunatic when he cut his throat, he had lucid intervals afterwards, and that it was in one of them that he made the latter will, which was conformable to his expressions of dislike for his wife, and regard for Clarke and King; and it was contended, that the evidence of the medical gentlemen of the hospital, as to insanity, was founded on too slight an observation of the deceased, to shake the positive testimony that supported these facts, which were sufficient to establish the latter will.

Sir John Nicholl recapitulated the evidence, and observed that the deceased appeared to have a regard for all the parties; but to be a person of such a fickle, irritable disposition, as to render a dependence on that regard very precarious. He was of opinion that the evidence of the medical gentlemen was not such as to convince the court of the testator's utter incapacity, from the time of his laying violent hands upon himself to his death; and the other evidence proved such expressions of his, as demonstrated that he enjoyed lucid intervals. He then commented upon the evidence of the patients in the hospital, as to the execution of the latter will, for which purpose the deceased was raised up in his bed; and thought it fully sufficient; and that it was not affected by the exceptions taken to it. He, therefore, pronounced for the validity of the latter will, but without costs.

Old Bailey, July 3.—Trial of Thomas Bowler on the capital charge of firing a blunderbuss at William Burrowes on the 30th May last, at Alperton, in the parish of Harrow.

—The first witness was William Burrowes, a farmer at Alperton, and a hay-salesman in St. James's market. He stated that travelling on the day above-mentioned, about seven in the morning, towards London, in a chaise cart, as he passed over the canal bridge near his house, he observed near the road side, under the shade of a tree, the legs and thighs of a man, whom he took to be the prisoner; and when he came within 15 yards of him, the prisoner raised a blunderbuss and took deliberate aim at him: the witness immediately stooped down in his cart, and requested he would not fire: the prisoner exclaimed, "D—n your eyes, take that," and fired. The witness found himself wounded in his head, neck, and back. He fell forward across the shafts, and his horse ran away with him. He had no previous quarrel with the prisoner. There had been some trifling dispute between them in March last about lopping trees, but nothing had passed personally on the subject. He had conversed with him on the preceding Wednesday, and observed nothing to give reason for thinking that he was not in his right mind.

Henry Jones, blacksmith, who lives near the spot, said, that on the morning stated, he met the prisoner on the bank of the canal, on foot, with a blunderbuss, accompanied by a boy, his grandson, on horseback. The prisoner said his blunderbuss would not hold the priming, and wished him to go

to the forge and put it in order. While this was doing, he said he meant to shoot a dog with it. He walked about the road till near seven, and then took his blunderbuss, and posted himself under the tree, as stated by the former witness. Jones then described the act of shooting Burrowes exactly as he had done; and added, that after the transaction, the boy dismounted, and Bowler mounted, and galloped over the bridge, bidding his grandson follow him.

Two other eye-witnesses of this atrocity confirmed the evidence of the preceding witness, and one of them produced two leaden bullets found on the spot, and the perforated hat of Burrowes.

William Sheppard, a stable-keeper in London, who knew both parties, deposed to some threatening expressions of Bowler's with respect to Burrowes, particularly his swearing that he would be the death of Burrowes before the middle of June, if he were to be hanged the next morning. Witness reported these words to Burrowes, who replied, "I don't fear him; he is too fond of his own life to take away mine."

The brother-in-law of Burrowes, who, on June 6th, apprehended Bowler, who had absconded, deposed that the prisoner entreated him not to take him away from his family, and offered him a large sum to suffer him to remain confined with his daughters and grandchildren.

Mr. Withers, attorney, and son-in-law of the prisoner, proved that his dispute with Burrowes about lopping trees was terminated without a law-suit. He said that the prisoner in last July was seized with

a fit in his hay-field, and fell from his horse, from which period he appeared much deranged in his memory, understanding, temper, and deportment; and the witnesses gave several instances of his singular conduct with respect to his mode of life, and his wrong notions about his affairs. Among these was a fancy that Burrowes was in a conspiracy with some of his neighbours against him. He admitted, however, on a cross-examination, that the witness was allowed to manage his own affairs, and that notwithstanding his threats, and the apprehensions of his friends that he would destroy his own life, no steps were taken to put him under control as a deranged person.

Mr. Winkley, a schoolmaster of Harrow, deposed to having waited on him on the Wednesday preceding the Saturday on which the crime was committed, to take instructions for altering his will, in presence of two of his neighbours; and that he brought the new will on Friday afternoon, when the prisoner executed it in their presence, and that of two other witnesses; and all these persons deposed that he appeared to them perfectly collected and capable of business during this whole transaction.

Here the evidence closed on the part of the crown.

The prisoner said nothing in his own defence, but a number of witnesses were brought to prove his insanity from the time of his fit and fall in July, 1811.

Mr. Hyatt, an apothecary of Ealing, who attended him, deposed to that effect, but admitted that he had not advised his friends

to proceed to a statute of lunacy, though he attended a consultation on that subject a few days before the unfortunate event, and fully intended to recommend such a proceeding. He had always regarded the prisoner as a violent and passionate man, but never so much as since the fit in July.

Dr. Ainslie had visited him several times in prison during the last June, and was convinced his derangement must have been of long standing, and that it was of the character of the derangement arising from epilepsy.

Mr. Warburton asserted it to be characteristic of insanity proceeding from epilepsy for the patient to take antipathies, with strong desires of vengeance, against individuals, often their dearest friends, and not to be reasoned out of them, though rational on every other subject. He was fully convinced of the prisoner's real insanity.

Mrs. Hayden, the prisoner's house-keeper for twenty years, confirmed the testimony of Mr. Withers concerning his irregularities of conduct, and threats of destroying himself. In some parts of her evidence, however, she grossly contradicted herself, and also the other witnesses.

The clerk of the Petty-bag office in the Court of Chancery produced the statute of lunacy obtained against the prisoner on June 17, 1812, with the decision of the jury that he was deranged since the 30th of March last.

Sir Simon le Blanc, after summing up the evidence with great perspicuity, stated to the jury, that the fact being proved beyond all doubt, it was for them to consider whether, at the time of its commission,

commission, the prisoner was in a state of mind to distinguish right from wrong, or under the influence of any illusion towards the particular object which rendered him for the moment insensible to the nature of the act he was about to commit; for if he was so influenced, he could not be deemed responsible to the law; otherwise, it would be their duty to find him guilty.

The jury, after deliberating some time, returned a verdict of *guilty*.

The unhappy man was afterwards executed for his crime, having to the last buoyed himself up with the hope of a pardon.

Case of Assault.—Mr. John Maberly and W. Dean, the former a respectable attorney, and the latter a constable, were indicted for assaulting Elizabeth Tadell, on the 16th of May last.—Mr. Alley, in opening the case, bore testimony to the general character of Mr. M. until the commission of the offence with which he now stood charged, which he could not help pronouncing to be of a most aggravated description. The counsel then proceeded to state, that the prosecutrix (who was a young and interesting looking woman), was, on the day stated in the indictment, servant to Mrs. Conyer, who lived at No. 4, Park-lane. About four o'clock, during the absence of her mistress, who had just gone out to take an airing in her carriage, the two defendants, in company with four other men, came to the house, and Mr. M. demanded that certain pictures, which were in the room, should be delivered into his possession, for Mr. Conyer, the husband of the lady in whose house the

plaintiff lived. Mr. Alley here stated, that a separation had taken place between Mr. and Mrs. Conyer, and that they kept separate establishments; but Mr. Conyer having some fancy for the pictures alluded to, had sent his attorney to demand them in the manner he had mentioned. The prosecutrix, having no knowledge of the defendants, or of Mr. Conyer, said she did not feel herself authorised to deliver any property under her care to any person, until the return of her mistress, whom she expected every moment; and to expedite whose arrival, she sent another servant girl, who was in the house. Mr. M. however, insisted upon taking the pictures, and was proceeding to enter the room in which they were, when the prosecutrix shut the door, locked it, and kept the key in her hand. Mr. M. then sent for a carpenter, to force the door; but his patience being exhausted before his arrival, he said it would be easier and better to take the key from the woman, and immediately Dean seized her by the wrist, and Mr. M. wrenched the key from her hand, in doing which he severely injured her fingers, which bled profusely; her arm and side were also much bruised. The pictures were then carried off, and the prosecutrix was left to make the best of her tale to her mistress.

These facts were proved by the evidence of the prosecutrix herself, and of Eleanor Tunstan, who witnessed the transaction. Mr. Reynolds, for the defendant, contended, that no assault had been committed; that Mr. M. was acting under the authority of Mr. Conyer, legally given; and that the prosecutrix,

cutrix, in refusing to give up the property, was acting in an unjustifiable manner, inasmuch as all the property in the house was, in fact, the property of Mr. Conyer. Mr. Alley argued the contrary; and the court holding a similar opinion, the defendants were found guilty. Mr. Justice Mainwaring sentenced them to pay the moderate fine of 3s. 4d. each. The court were not desirous of passing a very heavy judgment upon the defendants, but simply of marking their sense of the impropriety of Mr. M.'s conduct, who seemed to have acted under a mistake of the law, rather than from any intention to act improperly.

Admiralty Court, July 30.—Judgment in the case of the ship Snipe.—Sir William Scott began his speech by observing the great importance of a decision in this case, the principle of which involved several other cases of capture under the orders in council before May 20th, 1812. He stated that the captors contended, that the ship was liable to condemnation under the orders in council, she having been taken on the 28th of March last, entering the river of Bourdeaux; whilst, on the other hand, the claimants contended, that those orders had ceased to operate before the capture, on account of a French decree, bearing date April 28th, 1811, having repealed the Berlin and Milan decrees, to which those orders had only been retaliatory measures, which the British government was pledged to annul from the date of the repeal of the French decrees.

After a short account of the origin and progress of the decrees and orders in question, Sir William

stated, that on the 21st of April, in the present year, the British government published a declaration, offering to annul the orders in council from the day that the French government should by a subsequent decree repeal the Berlin and Milan decrees; and on the 20th of May a paper was received from the American minister, purporting to be a copy of a French decree of that import, bearing date April 28th, 1811. The British government, not recognizing the authenticity of this document, but wishing to conciliate America, issued on the 23d of June last, a declaration repealing the orders of council from the 20th of May. As to captures prior to that time, this declaration was silent, leaving them to the effect of the prior declaration of April, which rested on the principle of retaliation. It lay, therefore, with the claimants to prove that the Berlin and Milan decrees were actually repealed by the French decree of 1811, and also that they were so repealed as to oblige other nations to take notice of such repeal. The decrees in question had been promulgated in the most authentic and public manner, and their revocation ought to be made equally public, at least to all whom it might concern; for it was the rule, *decretum non obligat, sed promulgatio*. The Duke of Cadore, in his letter dated August 5, 1810, began by stating that “he was authorised to declare the Berlin and Milan decrees at an end;” but afterwards came the condition, “it being understood that Great Britain will repeal her orders in council, and her new principles of blockade, or that neutral nations will cause their flag to be respected.”

A letter

A letter merely promising the repeal of those decrees under certain qualifications and conditions, could never be considered as an actual revocation. No evidence had been given of any practice which could induce a belief that the decrees, even with respect to America, had been revoked at the time mentioned in the Duke of Cadore's letter. On the contrary, Mr. Russel, the American minister at Paris, in a letter dated in May, 1811, stated, "that no ship brought into the ports of France since November 1st, 1810, had either been released, or brought to trial." If the Orleans packet had afterwards been released, still he would ask how it was possible that that vessel should have been seized at Bordeaux some months after the decrees were said to be revoked, and detained for such a considerable time, if the revocation had been made public? In March 1812, the Duke of Bassano, in a public paper, asserted that "the Berlin and Milan decrees were in full force, and that they were fundamental laws of the empire." The alleged decree of repeal was stamped with all the characters of fallacy and fraud. It bore date in April 1811, and had never been produced till May 1812. No such document was known by the American ministers in the disputes with this country on the subject, nor to the tribunals or prize courts of France. It was hardly to be doubted that it owed its existence to the declaration of the 21st of April last; and to claim now under such a document, was to require that it should have operation long before it existed. The court would not now admit further proof of its

having been in existence, for it could only be sought in the *officina fraudis* whence the fabrication first issued.

The learned judge then proceeded to consider certain cases which were said to prove that those decrees were in fact repealed with respect to America; and he showed that not one of them had any authority; since acts merely of the grace and pleasure of the ruler of France could never be cited as the law of that country, or the rules which guided their tribunals. He would not allow that even the non-execution of the decrees could be properly considered as a repeal of them. The cessation in the exercise might arise from some motive of temporary policy; but the cases which would be real authority in favour of the repeal must be the liberation of vessels by the judgment of the proper tribunals, and not by special favour. It might be said by some, that neutrals had no right to prescribe the mode of restitution, provided it was in fact made. He, on the contrary, asserted that they had a right to expect that in France, as in every civilized country, there should be regular tribunals where they might claim redress *ex debito justitiæ*, and not as matter of court favour, caprice, or state-policy. On the whole, it appeared to him, that there was no evidence that any legal revocation of these decrees had taken place; and that the instrument relied on by the claimants had no marks of authenticity, but was evidently fabricated for a particular purpose. He should therefore determine on the case before him, and on all those that depended upon the same principle, that the

the instrument purporting to be a French decree, dated in April 1811, did not take those cases out of the general operation of the law as described in the orders of council; and that, consequently, those vessels captured under them before the 20th of May last could not be discharged from their operation.

PATENTS IN 1812.

John Plasket and Samuel Brown, for a method of making or manufacturing of casks and other vessels by improved machinery.

Mr. Edmund Griffith (Bristol) for an improvement in the manufacture of soap, for the purpose of washing with sea-water, hard-water, and other water.

Mr. James Cuparn (Leicester) for preventing chimneys from smoking.

Mr. Thomas Willes Cooper (Old-street) for an apparatus to be fixed at the naves of wheels and beds of axletrees of carriages, so as to prevent accidents from the axletrees breaking, &c.

Mr. Peter Joseph Brown (Henrietta-street) for an improved construction of buoys for ships or vessels, and for mooring chains.

Mr. Joseph Bagnal (Walsal) for a method of making bridle-bits, snaffles, &c. of iron, steel, or other metal.

Sir Howard Douglas (High Wycomb) for an improved reflecting circle or semi-circle.

Mr. Joseph Bastone (Bridge-water) for improvements applicable to bedsteads and various other things.

Mr. Thomas William Sturgeon (Howland-street) for improved castors.

Sir. Samuel Bentham (Hampstead) for an invention for a secure and economical mode of laying foundations applicable to the projections of wharfs and piers into deep water.

Mr. William Good (London) for an improvement in valves for various purposes.

Mr. Ralph Sutton (Birmingham) for an improved self-acting curtain or window-blind rack.

Mr. John Craigie (Craven-street) for improvements on carriages, by which friction may be saved, labour facilitated, and safety obtained.

Mr. Joseph Baker (Cuckfield, Sussex) for kneading dough by means of machinery.

Mr. Thomas Pearsall (Wills-bridge, Gloucester) for a method of constructing iron-work for certain parts of buildings.

Mr. William Fothergill (Greenfield, Flintshire) for a method of making copper rollers for printing.

Mr. John Miers (Strand, London) for a method of accelerating evaporation, of destroying the noxious effluvia from spent lees, and of generating an increased degree of heat, without additional fuel.

Mr. John Hudson (Cheapside, London)

London) for a composition for printing or painting on paper, linen, stuccoed walls, boards, &c.

Mr. Jacob Zink (Mile-end) for a method of manufacturing verdigris.

Mr. Richard Withy (Kingston-upon-Hull) for improvements in his invention for the construction of steam-engines.

Mr. George Dodd (Vauxhall-place) for machinery and the application of steam to communicate heat and motion to wines, porter, &c. in cellars, storehouses, and other places.

Mr. Henry James and John Jones (Birmingham) for an improvement in the manufacture of barrels of all descriptions of fire-arms.

Mrs. Sarah Guppy (Bristol) for tea and coffee urns, &c.

Mr. Thomas Marsh (King-street, Clerkenwell) for improvements in the construction of watches.

Mr. Robert Giles (London) for the invention of a cap or cowl to be placed on the top of chimneys.

Mr. Michael Logan (Paradise-street, Rotherhithe) for an instrument for the generation of fire, and various purposes in chemical and experimental operations.

Mr. Andrew Patten (Manchester) for a discovery and improvements in the tanning of leather, by the use of pyroligneous or wood-acid.

Mr. William Strachan (Chester) for a method of preparing the ore of cobalt for trade, manufacture, and painting.

Mr. Jeremiah Steel (Liverpool) for a new apparatus, and for distilling and rectifying spirits.

William Everhard Baron Von

Doornik (Wells-street) for an improvement in the manufacture of soap to wash with sea-water, with hard-water, and with soft-water.

Mr. James Adams (Pitkellony, in the county of Perth) for a method of drying malt and all kinds of grains and seeds.

Mr. George Smart (Westminster) for an improved method of preparing timber so as to prevent its shrinking.

Mr. Blenkinsop (Middleton, Yorkshire) for mechanical means by which the conveyance of coals, minerals, and other articles is facilitated, and the expense attending the same is rendered less than heretofore.

Messrs. Peter Moore and Co. (London) for a vertical bond in buildings, &c.

Mr. Lawrence Drake (Cloak-lane, London) for a method of preparing the various sorts of isinglass from river and marine fish.

Sir Saml. Bentham (Hampstead) for a new mode of excluding water of the sea, of rivers, or of lakes, during the execution of under water works of masonry, or for the security of foundations, applicable to the construction of sea-walls, wharfs, piers, &c.

Mr. William Hardcastle (Abingdon) for improved cranes, to prevent accidents from the goods attached to the pulley overpowering the person at the winch, or in the walking wheel.

Mr. George Dolland (London) for an improved method of lighting the binnacle compass, used for steering ships at sea.

Mr. Benjamin Milne (Bridlington) for an improved double bell and gun alarm.

Mr.

Mr. Frederic Albert Winsor (Shooter's Hill) for a method of employing raw or refined sugars in the composition of certain articles of great demand.

Mr. John Justice (Dundee) for an improvement in the construction of stove-grates, calculated to prevent the smoking of chimnies, or to effect their cure.

Mr. John Simpson (Birming-

ham) for improvements in the construction of lamps.

Mr. Robert Bill (Rathbone-place) for an apparatus to facilitate the operation of washing clothes, and other processes necessary in family and other establishments.

Mr. Richard Waters (Fore-street, Lambeth) for a new method of manufacturing pottery-ware.

LONDON BILL OF MORTALITY.

A general bill of all the Chrstenings and Burials from December 10, 1811, to December 15, 1812:—

Christened in the 97 parishes within the walls, 1020—Buried, 1167.

Christened in the 17 parishes without the walls, 4284—Buried, 3837.

Christened in the 23 out-parishes in Middlesex and Surrey, 11284—Buried, 9416.

Christened in the 10 parishes in the city and liberties of Westminster, 3816—Buried, 3875.

<i>Christened.</i>		<i>Buried.</i>	
Males ...	10,383	Males.....	9,396
Females..	10,016	Females..	8,899
In all..20,404		In all..18,295	

Whereof have died,

Under two years of age.....	5636	Fifty and sixty.....	1543
Between two and five.....	1907	Sixty and seventy.....	1425
Five and ten.....	655	Seventy and eighty.....	1193
Ten and twenty.....	620	Eighty and ninety.....	492
Twenty and thirty.....	1226	Ninety and a hundred....	71
Thirty and forty.....	1685	A hundred and two.....	1
Forty and fifty.....	1841		

Decreased in the Burials this year 1282.

There have been executed in the city of London and county of Surrey, 20; of which number six only have been reported to be buried within the bills of mortality.

PRICE OF STOCKS FOR EACH MONTH IN 1812—Lowest and Highest.

1812.	Bank Stock.	3 p. ct. red.	3 p. ct. cons.	4 p. ct. cons.	5 p. ct. Navy.	5 p. ct. 1797.	Long. Ann.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exchequer Bills.	S. Sea Stock.	Old Ann.	New Ann.	Omnium.	Irish 5 p. ct.	Imp. 3 p. ct.	Lottery Tickets.
J an....	{ 229 $\frac{1}{2}$ } { 232 $\frac{1}{2}$ }	62 $\frac{1}{2}$ 63 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 $\frac{1}{2}$ 63 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$ 79 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$ 96 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ 16 $\frac{1}{2}$	181 $\frac{1}{2}$ 182 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 a 16 pr. 17 a 18 pr.	2 a 4 pr. 3 a 6 pr.	67 $\frac{1}{2}$ 67 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 $\frac{1}{2}$ 63 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 $\frac{1}{2}$ 63 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 dis. pr.	93 93 $\frac{1}{4}$	60 $\frac{1}{2}$ 61 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Feb....	{ 229 $\frac{1}{2}$ } { 232 $\frac{1}{2}$ }	62 $\frac{1}{2}$ 63 $\frac{1}{2}$	61 $\frac{1}{2}$ 63 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 79 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{4}$ 93 $\frac{1}{4}$	100 $\frac{3}{4}$ 100 $\frac{3}{4}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ 16	178 $\frac{1}{2}$ 182	14 a 16 pr. 18 a 17 pr.	2 a 6 pr. 13 a 11 pr.	66 $\frac{1}{2}$ 67 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	dis. dis.	92 $\frac{5}{8}$ 92 $\frac{3}{4}$	60 $\frac{5}{8}$ 61 $\frac{1}{4}$	
March	{ 229 $\frac{1}{2}$ } { 231 }	59 $\frac{1}{2}$ 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	59 $\frac{1}{2}$ 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{3}{4}$ 78 $\frac{1}{2}$	89 $\frac{1}{2}$ 93 $\frac{1}{2}$	101 98 $\frac{5}{8}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ 16 $\frac{1}{2}$	177 $\frac{1}{2}$ 178	par. 1 d. 16 a 17 pr.	par. 1 d. 7 a 6 pr.	63 $\frac{1}{2}$ 66 $\frac{3}{4}$	61 $\frac{5}{8}$ 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{1}{4}$ 61 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ dis.	92 92 $\frac{7}{8}$	57 $\frac{3}{4}$ 60 $\frac{3}{4}$	
April..	{ 221 } { 227 $\frac{1}{2}$ }	58 $\frac{1}{2}$ 60 $\frac{1}{2}$	59 $\frac{1}{2}$ 60 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{5}{8}$ 76 $\frac{1}{4}$	90 $\frac{1}{4}$ 91 $\frac{1}{8}$	98 $\frac{5}{8}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	15 $\frac{3}{8}$ 15 $\frac{1}{2}$	176 $\frac{3}{4}$ 178 $\frac{1}{2}$	par. 1 d. 9 a 10 pr.	par. 1 d. 5 a 6 pr.	63 $\frac{3}{8}$ 65 $\frac{3}{8}$	58 $\frac{5}{8}$ 59 $\frac{3}{4}$	58 $\frac{1}{2}$ 60 $\frac{3}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.	87 $\frac{3}{4}$ 87 $\frac{3}{4}$	58 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{3}{8}$	
May...	{ 223 } { 230 $\frac{1}{2}$ }	59 $\frac{1}{4}$ 61 $\frac{3}{8}$	60 $\frac{1}{4}$ 62 $\frac{1}{4}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{3}{4}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$ 92 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{3}{4}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15 $\frac{3}{4}$	172 $\frac{1}{2}$ 176 $\frac{1}{2}$	par. 1 d. 3 a 4 pr.	2 dis. par. 2 a 3 pr.	65 $\frac{3}{8}$ 66 $\frac{3}{8}$	59 $\frac{3}{8}$ 60 $\frac{3}{8}$	60 $\frac{5}{8}$ 61 $\frac{1}{8}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ dis. 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ dis.	87 $\frac{1}{2}$ 88 $\frac{1}{4}$	57 $\frac{1}{4}$ 59 $\frac{1}{8}$	
June..	{ 214 } { 224 }	55 $\frac{1}{4}$ 60 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{1}{4}$ 61 $\frac{1}{4}$	71 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{4}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$ 92 $\frac{1}{4}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$ 15 $\frac{1}{2}$	175 $\frac{1}{4}$ 176	8 a 12 d. par 1 pr.	4 a 5 d. par. 1 pr.	65 $\frac{5}{8}$ 66	55 $\frac{1}{2}$ 60 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{5}{8}$ 61 $\frac{1}{8}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis. 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ dis.	88 $\frac{1}{4}$ 88 $\frac{1}{2}$	53 $\frac{3}{8}$ 58 $\frac{3}{8}$	
July...	{ 214 $\frac{1}{2}$ } { 218 }	55 $\frac{5}{8}$ 56 $\frac{3}{4}$	55 $\frac{1}{2}$ 60 $\frac{1}{8}$	71 $\frac{1}{4}$ 73 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 88 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$ 15 $\frac{1}{2}$	163 164 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 dis. 16 dis.	3 dis. 5 pr.	59 $\frac{1}{2}$ 60	55 $\frac{1}{2}$ 61 $\frac{1}{2}$	59 61	$\frac{1}{2}$ pr. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ pr.	86 86 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{1}{4}$ 55 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Aug...	{ 212 $\frac{1}{2}$ } { 222 }	56 $\frac{3}{4}$ 59 $\frac{3}{8}$	56 $\frac{3}{8}$ 59	73 76 $\frac{1}{4}$	88 $\frac{1}{4}$ 90 $\frac{1}{8}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	15 $\frac{5}{16}$ 15 $\frac{1}{2}$	162 $\frac{1}{2}$ 169	10 dis. 5 dis.	6 dis. 1 pr.	60 $\frac{1}{2}$ 62 $\frac{5}{8}$	57 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{3}{4}$	56 $\frac{1}{4}$ 59	2 pr. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ pr.	89 $\frac{3}{4}$ 89 $\frac{3}{4}$	55 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Sept...	{ 226 }	59 $\frac{3}{4}$ 60 $\frac{1}{4}$	56 $\frac{3}{8}$ 60 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 76 $\frac{5}{8}$	87 $\frac{3}{4}$ 92	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15 $\frac{1}{2}$	170 172	5 dis. 9 dis.	2 dis. 1 pr.	64 $\frac{1}{4}$ 65	59 $\frac{1}{4}$ 60 $\frac{1}{4}$	59 61	3 pr. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ pr.		57 $\frac{3}{8}$ 58 $\frac{3}{8}$	
Oct....	{ 212 $\frac{1}{2}$ } { 216 $\frac{3}{4}$ }	56 $\frac{3}{4}$ 57 $\frac{3}{4}$	57 $\frac{1}{4}$ 58 $\frac{1}{4}$	72 $\frac{5}{8}$ 73 $\frac{5}{8}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$ 90 $\frac{1}{8}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$ 15	163 165	12 dis. 1 dis.	4 dis. 4 pr.	62 62 $\frac{1}{4}$	57 58 $\frac{1}{2}$	57 59	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ pr. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ pr.	85 $\frac{1}{2}$ 85 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Nov..	{ 215 } { 217 }	57 $\frac{1}{4}$ 58 $\frac{1}{2}$	58 $\frac{1}{4}$ 59 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 74 $\frac{1}{4}$	89 $\frac{1}{2}$ 91 $\frac{3}{8}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$ 15 $\frac{1}{4}$	163 $\frac{1}{4}$ 165	3 dis. 1 pr.	2 dis. 3 pr.	62 $\frac{3}{4}$ 63	57 $\frac{1}{4}$ 58 $\frac{1}{2}$	57 59	5 pr. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ pr.	88 $\frac{1}{2}$ 88 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 $\frac{3}{8}$ 56 $\frac{3}{8}$	
Dec...	{ 216 } { 223 $\frac{1}{2}$ }	57 $\frac{1}{2}$ 61 $\frac{1}{4}$	58 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{3}{4}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$ 77 $\frac{1}{4}$	89 $\frac{1}{2}$ 92	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{8}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$ 15 $\frac{1}{4}$	163 $\frac{1}{4}$ 165	10 dis. 4 dis.	par. 2 pr.		59 60	59 61	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ pr. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ pr.		57 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{1}{2}$	

Average Price of Corn per Quarter in England and Wales, 1812.

	Wheat.		Rye.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	105	11	55	5	51	2	31	9	56	9
Feb.	105	1	56	7	51	9	31	5	56	0
Mar.	113	1	62	1	59	2	34	4	57	5
Apr.	126	11	74	2	69	0	39	5	62	0
May	133	7	81	7	76	1	47	5	70	1
June	133	10	82	5	74	2	69	0	73	4
July	146	0	90	0	77	10	52	9	77	4
Aug.	155	0	98	2	79	10	56	2	77	6
Sept.	132	9	83	1	69	8	54	10	81	9
Oct.	110	1	70	8	57	8	41	10	82	0
Nov.	122	8	78	8	64	7	44	5	91	11
Dec.	121	0	81	6	64	4	44	1	88	6

Average of the Year.

124 8 | 76 2 | 66 3½ | 44 0½ | 74 6½

Price of the Quartern Loaf according to the Assize of Bread in London.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
January	1	5	July	1	8
February	1	4	August	1	8
March	1	5½	September	1	8
April	1	6½	October	1	7½
May	1	6½	November	1	6½
June	1	7	December	1	6½

s. d.
Average of the Year 1 6½ +

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE POPULATION OF GREAT BRITAIN

In the Years 1801 and 1811,

Shewing the Increase or Diminution thereof.—Together with the present State of the Returns called for by an Act of the last Session of Parliament.

ENGLAND.

COUNTIES.	POPULATION 1801.			In-crease.	Dimi-nution.	POPULATION 1811.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Bedford	30,523	32,870	63,393	6,820	....	33,171	37,042	70,213
Berks	52,821	56,394	109,215	9,062	....	57,360	60,917	118,277
Buckingham..	52,094	55,350	107,444	10,026	....	56,208	61,442	117,650
Cambridge...	44,081	45,265	89,346	11,763	....	50,756	50,353	101,109
Chester	92,759	98,992	191,751	35,280	....	110,844	116,190	227,031
Cornwall	89,868	98,401	188,269	28,398	....	103,310	113,357	216,667
Cumberland..	54,377	62,853	117,230	16,514	....	63,433	70,311	133,744
Derby	79,401	81,746	161,142	24,345	....	91,494	93,993	185,487
Devon	157,240	185,761	343,001	40,307	....	179,553	203,755	383,308
Dorset	53,667	61,652	115,319	9,374	....	57,717	66,976	124,693
Durham	74,770	85,591	160,361	19,444	....	84,777	95,028	179,805
Essex	111,356	115,081	226,437	26,036	....	124,839	127,634	252,473
Gloucester...	117,180	133,629	250,809	27,727	....	129,546	148,990	278,536
Hereford	43,955	45,236	89,191	4,882	....	46,404	47,669	94,073
Hertford	48,063	49,514	97,577	14,077	....	55,023	56,631	111,654
Huntingdon..	18,521	19,047	37,568	4,640	....	20,402	21,806	42,208
Kent	151,374	156,250	307,624	63,261	....	181,925	188,960	370,885
Lancaster	322,356	350,375	672,731	155,578	....	394,104	434,205	828,309
Leicester	63,943	66,138	130,081	20,338	....	73,366	77,053	150,419
Lincoln	102,445	106,112	208,557	13,994	....	109,707	112,844	222,551
Middlesex...	373,655	444,474	818,129	131,913	....	433,036	517,006	950,042
Monmouth	22,173	23,409	45,582	5,692	....	25,715	25,559	51,274
Norfolk	129,842	143,529	273,371	18,611	....	138,076	153,906	291,982
Northampton.	63,417	68,340	131,757	9,596	....	68,279	73,074	141,353
Northumb..	73,357	83,741	157,101	15,060	....	80,385	91,776	172,161
Nottingham..	68,558	71,792	140,350	22,580	....	79,057	83,843	162,900
Oxford	53,786	55,834	109,620	9,584	....	59,140	60,064	119,204
Rutland	7,978	8,378	16,356	24	....	7,931	8,449	16,380
Salop	82,563	85,076	167,639	27,061	....	96,038	98,662	194,700
Somerset	126,927	146,823	273,750	29,430	....	141,449	161,731	303,181
Southampton.	105,667	113,789	219,656	25,691	....	118,434	126,913	245,347
Stafford	118,698	120,455	239,153	57,370	....	148,758	147,765	296,523
Suffolk	101,091	109,340	210,431	23,468	....	111,866	122,033	233,899
Surrey	127,138	141,905	269,043	54,808	....	151,811	172,040	323,851
Sussex	78,797	80,514	159,311	29,934	....	98,755	95,470	194,245
Warwick	99,942	108,248	208,190	10,703	....	104,487	114,406	218,893
Westmorland	20,175	21,442	41,617	4,369	....	22,902	23,084	45,986
Wilts	87,380	97,727	185,107	8,721	....	91,560	102,268	193,828
Worcester ...	67,631	71,702	139,333	21,668	....	78,261	82,740	161,001
York, E. Rid.	68,457	70,976	139,433	27,920	....	81,205	86,148	167,353
— N. Rid.	74,904	80,602	155,506	2,698	....	77,505	80,699	158,204
— W. Rid.	276,005	287,948	563,953	89,049	....	321,651	331,351	653,002
Totals ..	3,987,935	4,343,499	8,331,434	1,167,966	....	4,555,257	4,944,143	9,499,400

WALES.

COUNTIES.	POPULATION 1801.			In-crease.	Dimi-nution.	POPULATION 1811.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Anglesey....	15,775	18,031	33,806	3,286	.....	17,467	19,625	37,092
Brecon.....	15,393	16,240	31,633	6,117	.....	18,522	19,228	34,750
Cardigan....	20,408	22,548	42,956	7,376	.....	23,793	26,539	50,332
Carmarthen..	31,439	35,878	67,317	9,900	.....	36,080	41,137	77,217
Carnarvon...	19,586	21,235	41,521	7,498	.....	23,241	25,778	49,019
Denbigh....	29,247	31,105	60,352	3,888	.....	31,129	33,111	64,240
Flint.....	19,577	20,045	39,622	6,896	.....	22,712	23,806	46,518
Glamorgan..	34,190	37,335	71,525	9,743	.....	39,378	41,890	81,268
Merionethr. .	13,896	15,610	29,506	1,418	.....	14,308	16,616	30,924
Montgomery..	22,914	25,064	47,978	2,628	.....	24,760	25,846	50,606
Pembroke...	25,406	30,874	56,280	4,335	.....	27,453	33,162	60,615
Radnor.....	9,347	9,703	19,050	2,749	.....	10,571	11,228	21,799
Totals..	257,178	284,368	541,546	65,834	.....	289,414	317,966	607,380

SHIRES.	SCOTLAND.							
Aberdeen....	55,625	67,457	123,082	13,821	.....	60,973	75,930	136,903
Argyll.....	33,767	38,092	71,859	13,726	.....	40,675	44,910	85,585
Ayr.....	39,666	44,640	84,396	19,648	.....	48,506	55,448	103,954
Banff.....	16,067	19,740	35,807	.....	1707	14,911	19,189	34,100
Berwick.....	14,294	16,327	30,621	158	.....	14,466	16,313	30,779
Bute.....	5,552	6,239	11,791	282	.....	5,545	6,488	12,033
Caithness....	10,183	12,426	22,609	810	.....	10,608	12,811	23,419
Clackmanan...	5,064	5,794	10,858	1,152	.....	5,715	6,295	12,010
Dumbarton..	9,796	10,914	20,710	3,479	.....	11,369	12,820	24,189
Dumfries....	25,407	29,190	54,597	8,363	.....	29,347	33,613	62,960
Edinburgh...	54,224	68,730	122,954	25,490	.....	64,903	83,541	148,444
Elgin.....	11,763	14,942	26,705	1,403	.....	12,401	15,707	28,108
Fife.....	42,952	50,791	93,743	7,529	.....	45,968	55,304	101,272
Forfar.....	45,461	53,666	99,127	8,137	.....	48,151	59,113	107,264
Haddington..	13,890	16,096	29,986	1,178	.....	14,232	16,932	31,164
Inverness....	33,801	40,491	74,292	4,123	.....	35,749	42,666	78,415
Kincardine..	12,104	14,245	26,349	1,090	.....	12,580	14,859	27,439
Kinross....	3,116	3,609	6,725	520	.....	3,466	3,779	7,245
Kirkcudbright	13,619	15,592	29,211	4,473	.....	15,788	17,896	33,684
Lanark.....	68,100	78,599	146,699	45,053	.....	88,688	103,064	191,752
Linlithgow...	8,129	9,715	17,844	1,607	.....	8,874	10,571	19,451
Nairn.....	3,639	4,618	8,257	.....	6	3,530	4,721	8,251
Orkney and Shetland }	20,793	26,031	46,824	.....	671	20,151	26,002	46,153
Peebles.....	4,160	4,575	8,735	1,200	.....	4,846	5,089	9,935
Perth.....	58,088	67,558	126,366	8,727	.....	64,034	71,059	135,093
Perfrew.....	36,068	41,988	78,056	14,540	.....	41,960	50,636	92,596
Ross & Cro- marty }	25,494	29,849	55,343	5,510	.....	27,640	33,313	60,853
Roxburgh....	15,813	17,869	33,682	3,548	.....	17,113	20,117	37,230
Selkirk.....	2,356	2,714	5,070	819	.....	2,750	3,139	5,889
Stirling.....	23,875	26,950	50,825	7,349	.....	27,745	30,429	58,174
Sutherland...	10,425	12,692	23,117	512	.....	10,488	13,141	23,629
Wigtown....	10,570	12,348	22,918	3,973	.....	12,205	14,686	26,891
Totals..	734,581	864,487	1,599,068	208,180	2384	825,377	979,487	1,804,864

LIST OF HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

JANUARY, 1812.

CABINET MINISTERS.

Earl Camden.....	Lord President of the Council.
Lord Eldon.....	Lord High Chancellor.
Earl of Westmoreland	Lord Privy Seal.
Right Hon. Spencer Perceval	{ First Lord of the Treasury (Prime Minister), Chancellor and Under Treasurer of the Exchequer, also Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.
Right Hon. Charles Yorke.....	
Lord Mulgrave	First Lord of the Admiralty.
Right Hon. Richard Ryder	Master General of the Ordnance.
Marquis Wellesley	{ Secretary of State for the Home Department.
Earl of Liverpool	
	{ Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.
	{ Secretary of State for Department of War and the Colonies.

NOT OF THE CABINET.

Viscount Melville.....	{ President of the Board of Control for the Affairs of India.
Right Hon. George Rose.....	
Viscount Palmerston	{ Vice-Pres. of the Board of Trade and Treasurer of the Navy.
Lord Charles Somerset	
Right Hon. Charles Long.....	{ Secretary at War.
Earl of Chichester.....	
Earl of Sandwich	{ Joint Paymaster-General of the Forces.
Richard Wharton, Esq.	
Charles Arbuthnot, Esq.	{ Joint Postmaster-General
Sir William Grant.....	
Sir Vicary Gibbs	{ Secretaries to the Treasury.
Sir Thomas Plumer	
	Master of the Rolls.
	Attorney-General.
	Solicitor-General.

PERSONS IN THE MINISTRY OF IRELAND.

Duke of Richmond	Lord Lieutenant.
Lord Manners	Lord High Chancellor.
Right Hon. Wm. Wellesley Pole..	{ Chief Secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

LIST OF HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTERS,

As it stood at the Period of the Dissolution, September 29, 1812.

CABINET MINISTERS.

Earl of Harrowby	Lord President of the Council.
Lord Eldon	Lord High Chancellor.
Earl of Westmoreland	Lord Privy Seal.
Earl of Liverpool	{ First Lord of the Treasury (Prime Minister).
Right Hon. Nicholas Vansittart. ..	
Lord Viscount Melville.....	Chancellor and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer.
Earl Mulgrave	First Lord of the Admiralty.
Lord Viscount Sidmouth	Master-General of the Ordnance.
Lord Viscount Castlereagh	{ Secretary of State for the Home Department.
Earl Bathurst	
Earl of Buckinghamshire.....	Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.
Marquis Camden	{ Secretary of State for the Department of War and the Colonies.
	President of the Board of Control for the Affairs of India.

NOT OF THE CABINET.

Viscount Palmerston	Secretary at War.
Earl of Clancarty	President of the Board of Trade.
Right Hon. F. Robinson	{ Vice President of the Board of Trade.
Lord Charles Somerset	
Right Hon. Charles Long	Treasurer of the Navy.
Earl of Chichester.....	{ Joint Paymaster-General of the Forces.
Earl of Sandwich	
Richard Wharton, Esq.	Joint Postmaster-General.
Sir Charles Arbuthnot, Knt.	{ Secretaries to the Treasury.
Sir William Grant.....	
Sir Thomas Plumer	Master of the Rolls.
Sir William Garrow	Attorney-General.
	Solicitor-General.

PERSONS IN THE MINISTRY OF IRELAND.

Duke of Richmond	Lord Lieutenant.
Lord Manners	Lord High Chancellor.
Right Hon. Robert Peel	Chief Secretary.
Right Hon. W. Fitzgerald	Chancellor of the Exchequer.

METE-

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER,

(Kept near London.)

	BAROMETER.				THERMOMETER.				RAIN, INCHES.
	HIGHEST.	LOWEST.	AVERAGE.		HIGHEST.	LOWEST.	AVERAGE.		
January....	29.87	28.68	29.52		45	22	36.60		1.25
February ..	29.75	28.8	29.35		50	26	41.98		5.5
March	29.9	28.04	29.36		53	26	38.79		3
April.....	30	29	29.55		57	24	42.66		
May	30	29.29	29.64		71	52	52.3		4.5
June	30.1	29.1	29.6		76.5	45	59.35		2.25
July	30.05	29.15	29.68		75	40	59.66		4.67
August.....	29.88	29.25	29.56		77	47	60.1		3.25
September..	30	29.48	29.74		71	38	57.48		
October.....	29.78	28.25	29.24		65	40	52.61		6.5
November..	30.03	28.39	29.24		60	31	45.5		5.75
December ..	30.18	28.6	29.54		51	21	35.7		0.5
The Year ..			29.5				48.31		37.17

STATE PAPERS.

The Prince Regent's Speech, *Jan. 7.*

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WE are commanded by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to express to you the deep sorrow which he feels in announcing to you the continuance of his Majesty's lamented indisposition, and the unhappy disappointment of those hopes of his Majesty's early recovery which had been cherished by the dutiful affection of his family and the loyal attachment of his people.

The Prince Regent has directed copies of the last reports of her Majesty the Queen's council to be laid before you, and he is satisfied that you will adopt such measures as the present melancholy exigency may appear to require.

In securing a suitable and ample provision for the support of his Majesty's royal dignity, and for the attendance upon his Majesty's sacred person during his illness, the Prince Regent rests assured, that you will also bear in mind the indispensable duty of continuing to preserve for his Majesty the facility of resuming the personal exercise of his royal authority in the happy event of his recovery, so earnestly desired by the wishes and the prayers of his family and subjects.

The Prince Regent directs us to signify to you the satisfaction with which his Royal Highness has observed, that the measures which have been pursued for the defence and security of the kingdom of Portugal have proved completely effectual; and that on the several occasions in which the British or Portuguese troops had been engaged with the enemy, the reputation already acquired by them has been fully maintained.

The successful and brilliant enterprize, which terminated in the surprize, in Spanish Estremadura, of a French corps by a detachment of the allied army under Lieut. General Hill, is highly creditable to that distinguished officer, and to the troops under his command, and has contributed materially to obstruct the designs of the enemy in that part of the Peninsula.

The Prince Regent is assured, that while you reflect with pride and satisfaction on the conduct of his Majesty's troops, and of the allies, in these various and important services, you will render justice to the consummate judgment and skill displayed by Gen. Lord Viscount Wellington in the direction of the campaign. In Spain, the spirit of the people remains unsubdued; and the system of

of

of war, so peculiarly adapted to the actual condition of the Spanish nation, has been recently extended and improved, under the advantages which result from the operations of the allied armies on the frontier, and from the countenance and assistance of his Majesty's navy on the coast. Although the great exertions of the enemy have in some quarters been attended with success, his Royal Highness is persuaded, that you will admire the perseverance and gallantry manifested by the Spanish armies. Even in those provinces principally occupied by the French forces, new energy has arisen among the people; and the increase of difficulty and danger has produced more connected efforts of general resistance.

The Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, commands us to express his confident hope that you will enable him to continue to afford the most effectual aid and assistance in the support of the contest, which the brave nations of the Peninsula still maintain with such unabated zeal and resolution.

His Royal Highness commands us to express his congratulations on the success of the British arms in the island of Java.

The Prince Regent trusts that you will concur with his Royal Highness in approving the wisdom and ability with which this enterprise, as well as the capture of the islands of Bourbon and Mauritius, has been conducted under the immediate direction of the Governor General of India, and that you will applaud the decision, gallantry, and spirit, conspicuously displayed in the late operations of the brave

army under the command of that distinguished officer Lieut.-Gen. Sir Samuel Auchmuty, so powerfully and ably supported by his Majesty's naval forces.

By the completion of this system of operations, great additional security will have been given to the British commerce and possessions in the East Indies, and the colonial power of France will have been entirely extinguished.

His Royal Highness thinks it expedient to recommend to your attention the propriety of providing such measures for the future government of the British possessions in India as shall appear from experience, and upon mature deliberation, to be calculated to secure their internal prosperity, and to derive from those flourishing dominions the utmost degree of advantage to the commerce and revenue of the United Kingdom.

We are commanded by the Prince Regent to acquaint you, that while his Royal Highness regrets that various important subjects of difference with the government of the United States of America still remain unadjusted, the difficulties which the affair of the Chesapeake frigate had occasioned have been finally removed; and we are directed to assure you, that in the further progress of the discussions with the United States, the Prince Regent will continue to employ such means of conciliation as may be consistent with the honour and dignity of his Majesty's crown, and with the due maintenance of the maritime and commercial rights and interests of the British empire.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—His Royal Highness has directed

directed the estimates for the service of the current year to be laid before you. He trusts that you will furnish him with such supplies as may be necessary to enable him to continue the contest in which his Majesty is engaged, with that spirit and exertion which will afford the best prospect of its successful termination.

His Royal Highness commands us to recommend that you should resume the consideration of the state of the finances of Ireland, which you had commenced in the last session of parliament. He has the satisfaction to inform you, that the improved receipt of the revenue of Ireland in the last, as compared with the preceding year, confirms the belief, that the depression which that revenue had experienced is to be attributed to accidental and temporary causes.

My Lords and Gentlemen,—The Prince Regent is satisfied that you entertain a just sense of the arduous duties which his Royal Highness has been called upon to fulfil, in consequence of his Majesty's continued indisposition.

Under this severe calamity, his Royal Highness derives the greatest consolation from his reliance on your experienced wisdom, loyalty, and public spirit; to which, in every difficulty, he will resort, with a firm confidence, that, through your assistance and support, he shall be enabled, under the blessings of Divine Providence, successfully to discharge the important functions of the high trust reposed in him; and in the name and on the behalf of his beloved father and revered sovereign, to maintain, unimpaired, the prosperity and honour of the nation.

Declaration of the Members of her Majesty's Council respecting the State of his Majesty's Health, made on the 5th of Jan. 1812.

We, the under-written members of the council, &c. having duly met together, on this 4th day of Jan. 1812, at the Queen's Lodge, near to Windsor Castle, and having called before us, and examined upon oath, the physicians and other persons attendant upon his Majesty, and having ascertained the state of his Majesty's health by all such ways and means as appear to us to be necessary for that purpose, do hereby declare and certify, that the state of his Majesty's health, at the time of this our meeting, is not such as to enable his Majesty to resume the personal exercise of his royal authority:

That his Majesty's bodily health appears to us to be as good as at any of the periods of our former reports:

That his Majesty's mental health appears to us not to be worse than at the period of our last report:

That all the physicians attending his Majesty agree in stating, that they think his Majesty's complete and final recovery improbable; differing, however, as to the degree of such improbability; some of them expressing themselves as not despairing,—others as not entirely despairing,—and one of them representing that he cannot help despairing of such recovery.

(Signed)

C. CANTUAR,	AYLESFORD,
E. EBOR,	ELDON,
MONTROSE,	ELLENBOROUGH,
WINCHILSEA,	W. GRANT.

Shortly after the above report had

had been read in the presence of all the physicians, and one of the members of the council had left Windsor, the physician alluded to in the last clause of the report, stated, in writing, to the other members of the council then remaining at Windsor, "that he had, unquestionably, made use of an expression, which he was apprehensive might carry a meaning far beyond what he intended to express, and assured the council, that whilst he thought the final recovery of his Majesty very improbable, he by no means despaired of it."

The members of the council to whom the above statement was made (having sworn the physician alluded to, to the truth thereof) afterwards communicated the same to the whole council, assembled this 5th day of January, who have deemed it right to subjoin this fact to the above declaration.

(Signed)

C. CANTUAR, AYLESFORD,
E. EBOR, ELDON,
MONTROSE, ELLENBOROUGH,
WINCHILSEA, W. GRANT.

Declaration of the Members of her Majesty's Council, respecting the State of his Majesty's Health, made on the 4th of April, 1812.

"We, the underwritten, do hereby declare and certify, that the state of his Majesty's health, at the time of this our meeting, is not such as to enable him to resume the personal exercise of his royal authority.

"That his Majesty's bodily health is as good as at any of the periods of our former reports.

"That his Majesty's mental health is as much disordered as it

has been during any part of his Majesty's indisposition.

"That all the physicians in attendance concur in thinking, that his Majesty's final and complete recovery is extremely improbable, and they do not expect it; but they also concur in stating, that they do not entirely despair of it."

Signed as above.

Declaration of the Members of her Majesty's Council, respecting the State of his Majesty's Health, made on the 4th of July, 1812.

"We, the underwritten, do hereby declare and certify, that the state of his Majesty's health, at the time of this our meeting, is not such as to enable his Majesty to resume the personal exercise of his royal functions.

"That his Majesty's bodily health is as good as it was at the period of our last report.

"That his Majesty's mental health is as much disordered as during any period of his Majesty's indisposition.

"That the hope of his Majesty's ultimate and complete recovery is diminished since the period of our last report; but that such recovery is not absolutely despaired of."

Signed as above.

Letter from his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to the Duke of York, and Answer from Earl Grey and Lord Grenville.

My dearest Brother,—As the restrictions on the exercise of the royal authority will shortly expire, when I must make my arrangements for the future administration
of

of the powers with which I am invested, I think it right to communicate to you those sentiments which I was withheld from expressing at an earlier period of the session, by my earnest desire, that the expected motion on the affairs of Ireland might undergo the deliberate discussion of parliament, unmixed with any other consideration.

I think it hardly necessary to call your recollection to the recent circumstances under which I assumed the authority delegated to me by parliament. At a moment of unexampled difficulty and danger, I was called upon to make a selection of persons to whom I should entrust the functions of the executive government.

My sense of duty to our royal father solely decided that choice; and every private feeling gave way to considerations which admitted of no doubt or hesitation. I trust I acted in that respect as the genuine representative of the august person whose functions I was appointed to discharge; and I have the satisfaction of knowing, that such was the opinion of persons, for whose judgment and honourable principles I entertain the highest respect.

In various instances, as you well know, where the law of the last session left me at full liberty, I waved any personal gratification, in order that his Majesty might resume, on his restoration to health, every power and prerogative belonging to his crown. I certainly am the last person in the kingdom to whom it can be permitted to despair of our royal father's recovery.

A new æra is now arrived, and I cannot but reflect with satisfaction, on the events which have

distinguished the short period of my restricted regency. Instead of suffering in the loss of any of her possessions, by the gigantic force which has been employed against them, Great Britain has added most important acquisitions to her empire. The national faith has been preserved inviolate towards our allies; and if character is strength, as applied to a nation, the increased and increasing reputation of his Majesty's arms will shew to the nations of the continent how much they may still achieve when animated by a glorious spirit of resistance to a foreign yoke. In the critical situation of the war in the Peninsula, I shall be most anxious to avoid any measure which can lead my allies to suppose that I mean to depart from the present system. Perseverance alone can achieve the great object in question; and I cannot withhold my approbation from those who have honourably distinguished themselves in the support of it. I have no predilections to indulge—no resentments to gratify—no objects to attain, but such as are common to the whole empire. If such is the leading principle of my conduct—and I can appeal to the past in evidence of what the future will be—I flatter myself I shall meet with the support of parliament, and of a candid and enlightened nation.

Having made this communication of my sentiments in this new and extraordinary crisis of our affairs, I cannot conclude without expressing the gratification I should feel, if some of those persons with whom the early habits of my public life were formed, would strengthen my hands, and constitute a part of my government. With such support,

port, and aided by a vigorous and united administration, formed on the most liberal basis, I shall look with additional confidence to a prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great Britain was ever engaged. You are authorised to communicate these sentiments to Lord Grey, who, I have no doubt, will make them known to Lord Grenville.

I am always, dearest Frederick your affectionate brother.

(Signed) GEORGE P. R.
Carlton-house, Feb. 13, 1812.

P.S. I shall send a copy of this letter immediately to Mr. Perceval.

Letter from Lords Grey and Grenville.

February 15, 1812.

Sir,—We beg leave most humbly to express to your Royal Highness our dutiful acknowledgments for the gracious and condescending manner in which you have had the goodness to communicate to us the letter of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent on the subject of the arrangements to be now made for the future administration of the public affairs; and we take the liberty of availing ourselves of your gracious permission to address to your Royal Highness in this form what has occurred to us in consequence of that communication.

The Prince Regent, after expressing to your Royal Highness in that letter his sentiments on various public matters, has, in the concluding paragraph, condescended to intimate his wish that “some of those persons with whom the early habits of his public life were formed would strengthen his Royal Highness’s hands, and constitute a part of his government:” and his

Royal Highness is pleased to add, “that with such support, aided by a vigorous and united administration, formed on the most liberal basis, he would look with additional confidence to a prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great Britain has ever been engaged.”

On the other parts of his Royal Highness’s letter we do not presume to offer any observations; but on the concluding paragraph, in so far as we may venture to suppose ourselves included in the gracious wish which it expresses, we owe it, in obedience and duty to his Royal Highness, to explain ourselves with frankness and sincerity.

We beg leave most earnestly to assure his Royal Highness, that no sacrifices, except those of honour and duty, could appear to us too great to be made, for the purpose of healing the divisions of our country, and uniting both its government and its people. All personal exclusion we entirely disclaim: we rest on public measures; and it is on this ground alone that we must express, without reserve, the impossibility of our uniting with the present government. Our differences of opinion are too many and too important to admit of such an union. His Royal Highness will, we are confident, do us the justice to remember, that we have twice already acted on this impression; in 1809, on the proposition then made to us under his Majesty’s authority; and last year, when his Royal Highness was pleased to require our advice respecting the formation of a new government. The reasons which we then humbly submitted to him are strengthened by the increasing dangers of the times; nor has there, down to this moment,

moment, appeared even any approximation towards such an agreement of opinion on the public interests, as can alone form a basis for the honourable union of parties previously opposed to each other.

Into the detail of these differences we are unwilling to enter; they embrace almost all the leading features of the present policy of the empire; but his Royal Highness has, himself, been pleased to advert to the late deliberations of parliament on the affairs of Ireland. This is a subject, above all others, important in itself and connected with the most pressing dangers. Far from concurring in the sentiments which his Majesty's ministers have, on that occasion, so recently expressed, we entertain opinions directly opposite: we are firmly persuaded of the necessity of a total change in the present system of government in that country, and of the immediate repeal of those civil disabilities under which so large a portion of his Majesty's subjects still labour on account of their religious opinions. To recommend to parliament this repeal, is the first advice which it would be our duty to offer to his Royal Highness; nor could we, even for the shortest time, make ourselves responsible for any further delay in the proposal of a measure, without which we could entertain no hope of rendering ourselves useful to his Royal Highness, or to our country.

We have only therefore further to beg your Royal Highness to lay before his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the expression of our humble duty, and the sincere and respectful assurance of our earnest wishes for whatever may

best promote the ease, honour, and advantage of his Royal Highness's government, and the success of his endeavours for the public welfare. We have the honour to be. &c.

(Signed) GREY,
GRENVILLE.

To his Royal Highness the
Duke of York.

*Message from the Prince Regent
respecting Lord Wellington, Fe-
bruary 18.*

“GEORGE P. R.

“The Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, having taken into his royal consideration the eminent and signal services performed by General Lord Viscount Wellington in the course of a long series of distinguished exploits in the campaigns in Spain and Portugal, and being desirous to mark the sense he entertains of services so honourable to the British arms, and so eminently beneficial to the interests of the nation, has conferred, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, upon General Lord Viscount Wellington, and the heirs male of his body, the rank and dignity of an Earl of the United Kingdom, by the name, stile, and title of Earl of Wellington.

“The Prince Regent, further desirous of granting to the Earl of Wellington a nett annuity of 2,000*l.* in addition to the annuity already granted by parliament, and subject to the same limitations imposed in that grant, recommends to the House of Commons, to enable his Royal Highness, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, to grant and settle such annuity, and
to

to make such further provision as aforesaid, as may be thought most effectual for the benefit of General the Earl of Wellington, and his family.

“ G. P. R.”

Message from the Prince Regent respecting the Princesses, March 20.

GEORGE P. R.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, thinks it necessary to acquaint the House of Commons, that, in pursuance of the powers vested in his Majesty by two acts passed in the 18th and 39th years of his present Majesty's reign, his Majesty was graciously pleased, by letters patent, bearing date February 2, 1812, to grant to their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia, and Amelia, an annuity of 3,000*l.* agreeably to the provisions and subject to the limitation of the said acts, which grant was to take effect from the demise of his Majesty; and his Royal Highness being desirous, in the present situation of the royal family, to be enabled to provide for the establishment of their Royal Highnesses the Princesses, by an immediate grant, recommends to the House of Commons to take the subject into its consideration, and to enable his Royal Highness to make such provision for their Royal Highnesses the Princesses, as in the liberality of parliament may be thought suitable to the actual situation of the Princesses, and to the circumstances of the present time.

Report on the Nightly Watch and Police of the Metropolis.

The report of the committee appointed to examine into the state of the nightly watch in the metropolis and the parishes adjacent, and further into the state of the police, and who were empowered to report their observations, from time to time, to the house, is printed.

The committee observe, that they first directed their inquiries to the state of the nightly watch. Had they found the defects in this part of the system of our police to have been such at this moment, as to have demanded the immediate interposition of the legislature, they would have made an early report; but they had the satisfaction of observing, that the apprehensions which had been excited, had produced such a degree of activity and vigilance in many parishes and districts, and such a conviction that the former means of security were insufficient, that all immediate alarms on this head had been in a great measure removed.

In some parishes, indeed, the zeal and energy of the inhabitants appear to have been the most exemplary and meritorious; they have agreed to take upon themselves, in rotation, the duties of superintendants of the nightly watch, to visit and inspect the watch-houses, the constables, bea-dles, patroles, and stationary watchmen; and a system of the nightly watch, thus introduced by voluntary exertions of the householders, has been so effectual, that your committee think it necessary only to recommend such measures to be enforced

enforced by legislative enactment, as would give an uniformity and permanency to such a system.

The metropolis is considered as divided into three parts :—

“The city of London, properly so called, and the liberties thereof; the city of Westminster, and the liberties thereof; the several parishes which are neither within the city of London and its liberties, or the city of Westminster and its liberties.”

The city of London is governed by various ancient charters and statutes. The statute of the 13th of Edward I. (*Statutum Civitatis London,*) is one of the most ancient; but the principal act which at this time regulates the nightly watch of the city of London, is the 10 Geo. II. c. 22. by which the Lord Mayor, aldermen, and common-council, are directed yearly to make regulations on this subject, and the aldermen and common-councilmen in each ward are to carry these regulations into effect, and make such minor regulations as to details, as they may judge necessary. The act specifies the duties of the constables and watchmen, and prescribes the mode in which they are to be punished for misconduct or neglect.

The city of London, from the nature of its magistracy, the description of its various public officers, the gradation and subordination of their various classes, the division and subdivision of its local limits, affords an example of that unity and of that dependance of parts on each other, without which no well constructed and efficient system of police can ever be expected. If such a system could be successfully imitated in Westminster and its liberties, and within the

other adjacent parishes, considerable benefit might be expected; for your committee are disposed to concur with several witnesses, that a well arranged system of superintendence, vigilance, and control, would tend more to the prevention of crimes, than any degree of activity in the pursuit and conviction of criminals: however, the two systems are not only not incompatible, but would afford mutual aid and assistance to each other.

This system of watch and ward, adapted by the legislature to the city of London, is not a dead letter, but is kept alive and in action by the constant superintendence of the marshals of the city, with their assistants who every night visit the different wards and precincts, and take care that the constables, beadles, and watchmen of all descriptions, are alert and do their duty. Morning reports are made to the Lord Mayor; deficiencies are noticed, as well as any disorders or irregularities, or other occurrences.

The city of Westminster, having never been incorporated, is not provided with the same means, and the same gradations of its public officers, to insure the unity and efficiency of its exertions for the prevention of crimes.

By the statute of the 27th of Elizabeth, presiding and subordinate officers are appointed, and powers given to the dean and chapter, and to the high steward, and others, to make regulations for the good government of Westminster. Lord Burleigh was the first high steward, and a code of regulations was introduced by him, and a division of its local limits into 12 wards. This statute is specially referred to, and its powers enlarged,

enlarged, by the 29 Geo. II. c. 25. and by the 31 Geo. II. c. 17. and an unity and gradation of authority are endeavoured to be established; and the high constable is directed to obey the orders of the high steward, and the petty constables to obey the high steward.

The duties and superintendence of the high steward have fallen into great disuse, although very important duties are imposed on him. It appears, however, that on great occasions of ceremony, he has from time to time personally interfered, and put himself at the head of the whole civil force of the city of Westminster, marshalling and arranging the subordinate officers. The present high steward, the Marquis of Buckingham, is stated to have so interfered at the funeral of Lord Nelson and Mr. Pitt.

The statute of 14 Geo. III. c. 90. seems to have superseded this system. It is a local act applicable to the city and liberties of Westminster, and certain other parishes therein named; and prescribes the duties of constables, beadles, patrols, and watchmen. It is not founded upon the principle of 10 Geo. II. c. 22. which relates to the city of London, but it limits the discretionary powers of the different parochial authorities, and prescribes the exact manner in which the various descriptions of persons employed must discharge their duties, and defines the smallest number which each parish is to employ, and the lowest amount of wages to be paid. It details the manner in which misconduct and neglect is to be punished, and meritorious exertions rewarded. It is observable, that both these sta-

tutes refer to the ancient statute of watch and ward, the 13th Edw. I. and recognize the principle, that the protection of every district is a compulsory duty incumbent on the inhabitants; and, therefore, an express clause is inserted in each of these acts, to discharge from this duty such inhabitants as shall contribute to the rate for defraying the expense of such ward and watch. Other parishes or hamlets are governed by particular acts of parliament, authorising the raising of rates for watching and lighting; but, in many cases, the execution of the law is extremely defective, and in some cases the power of raising money is inadequate. In other parishes there is no legislative provision; and neither the magistracy or the government have at present any connection whatever with the state of the watch, and no control or superintendence over it.

Your committee feel that much would be done by merely extending the provisions of the 14 Geo. III. to the adjacent parishes in and near the metropolis, provided it were duly executed; but they are convinced that it may receive very beneficial amendments, for the details of which they would refer to the appendix, stating here only, that in many instances it may be absolutely necessary to give powers for levying a higher rate than is now allowed, in order to defray the expense arising from an increase of the numbers or wages of the persons employed in different capacities in the nightly watch; your committee being strongly impressed with the opinion of the expediency, if not necessity, of relieving the watch once
at

at least in the night. But the main improvement of this law would consist in creating a superintending power, to whose discretion should be intrusted the dismissal of the persons appointed by the parochial authorities in cases of misconduct, negligence, or inability, and to whom it should belong to enforce generally, if necessary, the due execution of this act.

Your committee, considering with this view whether there are any public bodies on whom might conveniently be imposed the duty of connecting in some degree the scattered parochial authorities, have naturally found their attention directed to the Boards of Magistracy, which have been created by the 32 Geo. III. c. 53. which establishes seven Boards of Magistracy. These Boards have obtained the name of Police Offices, although neither by the provisions of this act, nor by the nature of their duties, have they any superintendence whatever in matters of preventive and parochial police; they merely constitute the first stage in the administration of criminal jurisprudence. It would seem to be extraordinary, that in London there should be no office in which information is collected from which intelligence can be obtained as to the state of the police. The Secretary of State for the home department, has not, necessarily, any knowledge on this subject, except with reference to crimes committed.

The greatest advantages would arise from making use of these boards of magistracy, as constituting centers to which information might constantly be communicated, and daily reports made from the several parishes. It should be

the duty of some of the principal officers, attached to the several boards of magistracy, to go rounds according to some rotation, and to visit the several watch-houses, and report in the morning to the office to which they are attached. It should be the duty of the high constable occasionally to make similar visitations and reports. It is further recommended, that the provisions of the statute of 14 Geo. III. cap. 90, should be extended, which, after having prescribed the general outline of the manner in which watch is to be kept, directs that the several parochial authorities shall meet, and make more detailed rules and regulations for the instruction and guidance of the constables, beadles, patrols, and watchmen. Copies of such rules and regulations should also be transmitted to the police office of the district, that the officers may judge whether such regulations are complied with. Copies should be affixed to the watch-house. But the system would be imperfect unless information, collected at each of the seven boards of magistracy, was accumulated at some one central point, in order that there may be the means of comparing the occurrences and circumstances of the various parts of the town. The office at Bow-street might form the center, to which this various information should be transmitted.

It would probably be necessary to attach to it some fit person, whose immediate duty should be, to compare and digest such information, for the purpose of being communicated to that board of magistrates, and to the secretary of state. Although this part of the subject be of pre-eminent importance,

importance, and as some of the witnesses have said, to be all in all, yet there are several other measures which may come in aid of this system.

With this view the police office at Wapping, called the Thames Police Office, for the detection of felonies, &c. committed on the river Thames, is noticed. Its funds are inadequate for such an establishment as would be necessary to guard the property on the line of river from London bridge to Battersea. An additional number of boats should be provided for the river above bridge.

The increasing population in the neighbourhood of Greenwich requires another police office on that side of the river. It is in the contemplation of government to remove the Thames Police Office to the Surrey side, for that purpose: this might then be made an office for an eighth division. The most notorious pickpockets and other reputed thieves, are permitted to frequent the public avenues of the town with impunity, notwithstanding the provisions of 32 Geo. III. made for the purpose of their apprehension: but the law, as it now stands, does not authorize the officer to apprehend them, unless, first, they are seen in some public avenue; secondly, unless they are reputed thieves; and, thirdly, unless they are on the spot with the intent to commit a felony. This can be proved only by some overt act which they are seen to commit; such as hustling, attempting the pocket, or the like. It has been suggested, that if further powers were given by the legislature, the apprehension of these offenders would be greatly facilitated; but on the

other hand, it has not occurred to your committee that the powers already given could be enlarged consistently with the general liberty of the subject. Doubts, however, have arisen on the construction of this act, and the subsequent act of 51 Geo. III. whether they extend to the city of London (properly so called), which is stated to be at present the resort of many reputed thieves, from the shelter afforded by the act being understood to be so limited; it seems therefore desirable that it should be amended for this purpose.

It is at present very difficult to convict receivers of stolen goods; but your committee think that the evil would be much checked, if the law with respect to the execution of search-warrants were amended, and the officer enabled to put them in force as well by night as by day, under the direction of the magistrates.

Hackney coaches frequently are used for the conveyance of stolen property in the night, and, to avoid detection, the proper number of the coach is frequently taken off, and another substituted during the time they are in waiting; this might in some degree be remedied, by directing the proper number to be painted on the pannel of the coach.

Your committee fully agree in the recommendation of a former committee (28 Report Finance), that the magistrates should have further means of rewarding their officers for extraordinary activity and exertions, as the case might require. If this power was given to a limited extent, the police officers might be precluded in future from participating in the rewards given by act of parliament. The

rewards are usually divided between the prosecutor and all the witnesses; the police officer has only a small share; but this circumstance sometimes operates against his credit as a witness, and to the defeat of public justice. It seems desirable, therefore, that as a public officer, he should be free from any such imputation, and that his services would be best rewarded by the magistrates, without depending on the conviction of the offender. The increasing expense of criminal prosecutions has been truly stated to be a great source of the impunity and increase of crimes; and it seems highly deserving attention, whether the expenses of prosecution to a limited extent, and in particular cases, which may be specified, might not with propriety be defrayed out of the parish rates, or some other general fund. Such a regulation would tend to an increased activity in the prevention and prosecution of offenders, and the great relief of individuals on whom these depredations are committed.

The petitions from the licensed publicans, with regard to the stealing of pewter pots, have been referred to your committee; but it does not occur to them, that the interest of the petitioners can be so well guarded by any new act, as by regulations they can make among themselves.

The committee add, that they cannot conclude, without mentioning the incongruity in the system for the government of the metropolis, owing to the magistrates of the city of London, in the centre of the metropolis, being unable to pursue, by their warrants, beyond the local limits of the city (pro-

perly so called), goods which may have been stolen within the limits of the city, and may have been removed beyond these limits. They conceive, that the warrant of the city magistrates should have operation, without being backed by any other magistrate, within a circle of five miles from the Royal Exchange; and that warrants, signed by county magistrates within five miles of the Royal Exchange, should operate within the local limits of the city, without being backed by the city magistrates. They are aware that there are many other points which may be considered as intimately connected with the subject of police, and to which they might have directed their attention; but as these subjects have been referred to other committees, they have conceived it to be their duty to confine their investigations and their observations to those leading principles of preventive superintendence and control, and to that system of provident vigilance, which, by watching assiduously over the interests of the community, may maintain, without interruption, its good order and security.

Declaration on the Orders of Council.

The government of France having by an official report, communicated by its minister for foreign affairs to the conservative senate on the 10th day of March last, removed all doubts as to the perseverance of that government in the assertion of principles, and in the maintenance of a system, not more hostile to the maritime rights and commercial

commercial interests of the British empire, than inconsistent with the rights and independence of neutral nations; and having thereby plainly developed the inordinate pretensions which that system, as promulgated in the decrees of Berlin and Milan, was from the first designed to enforce; his royal highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, deems it proper upon this formal and authentic republication of the principles of those decrees, thus publicly to declare his Royal Highness's determination still firmly to resist the introduction and establishment of this arbitrary code, which the government of France openly avows its purpose to force upon the world, as the law of nations.

From the time that the progressive injustice and violence of the French government made it impossible for his Majesty any longer to restrain the exercise of the rights of war within their ordinary limits, without submitting to consequences not less ruinous to the commerce of his dominions, than derogatory to the rights of his crown, his Majesty has endeavoured by a restricted and moderate use of those rights and retaliation, which the Berlin and Milan Decrees necessarily called into action, to reconcile neutral states to those measures, which the conduct of the enemy had rendered unavoidable; and which his Majesty has at all times professed his readiness to revoke, so soon as the decrees of the enemy, which gave occasion to them, should be formally and unconditionally repealed, and the commerce of neutral nations restored to its accustomed course.

At a subsequent period of the war, his Majesty, availing himself of the then situation of Europe, without abandoning the principle and object of the Orders in Council of November, 1807, was induced to limit their operation, as materially to alleviate the restrictions thereby imposed upon neutral commerce. The order in Council of April, 1809, was substituted in the room of those of November, 1807, and the retaliatory system of Great Britain acted no longer on every country in which the aggressive measures of the enemy were in force, but was confined in its operation to France, and to the countries upon which the French yoke was most strictly imposed; and which had become virtually a part of the dominions of France.

The United States of America remained nevertheless dissatisfied; and their dissatisfaction has been greatly increased by an artifice too successfully employed on the part of the enemy, who has pretended that the decrees of Berlin and Milan were repealed, although the decree affecting such repeal has never been promulgated; although the notification of such pretended repeal distinctly described it to be dependant on conditions, in which the enemy knew Great Britain could never acquiesce; and although abundant evidence has since appeared of their subsequent execution.

But the enemy has at length laid aside all dissimulation; he now publicly and solemnly declares, not only that those decrees still continue in force, but that they shall be rigidly executed until Great Britain shall comply with

additional conditions equally extravagant ; and he further announces the penalties of those decrees to be in force against all nations which shall suffer their flag to be, as it is termed in this new code, “ denationalized.”

In addition to the disavowal of the blockade of May, 1806, and of the principles on which that blockade was established, and in addition to the repeal of the British Orders in Council, he demands an admission of the principles, that the goods of an enemy, carried under a neutral flag, shall be treated as neutral :—that neutral property under the flag of an enemy shall be treated as hostile ;—that arms and warlike stores alone (to the exclusion of ship-timber and other articles of naval equipment) shall be regarded as contraband of war ;—and that no ports shall be considered as lawfully blockaded, except such as are invested and besieged, in the presumption of their being taken [*en prevention d'être pris*], and into which a merchant-ship cannot enter without danger.

By these and other demands, the enemy in fact requires, that Great Britain and all civilised nations shall renounce, at his arbitrary pleasure, the ordinary and indisputable rights of maritime war ; that Great Britain, in particular, shall forego the advantages of her naval superiority, and allow the commercial property, as well as the produce and manufactures of France and her confederates, to pass the ocean in security, whilst the subjects of Great Britain are to be, in effect proscribed from all commercial intercourse with other nations ; and the produce and manufactures of these realms are to

be excluded from every country in the world to which the arms or the influence of the enemy can extend.

Such are the demands to which the British government is summoned to submit—to the abandonment of its most ancient, essential, and undoubted maritime rights. Such is the code by which France hopes, under cover of a neutral flag, to render her commerce unassailable by sea ; whilst she proceeds to invade or to incorporate with her own dominions all states that hesitate to sacrifice their national interests at her command, and in abdication of their just rights, to adopt a code, by which they are required to exclude, under the mask of municipal regulation, whatever is British from their dominions.

The pretext for these extravagant demands, is, that some of those principles were adopted by voluntary compact in the treaty of Utrecht ; as if a treaty once existing between two particular countries, founded on special and reciprocal considerations, binding only on the contracting parties, and which in the last treaty of peace between the same powers, had not been revived, were to be regarded as declaratory of the public law of nations.

It is needless for his Royal Highness to demonstrate the injustice of such pretensions. He might otherwise appeal to the practice of France herself, in this and in former wars, and to her own established codes of maritime law : it is sufficient that these new demands of the enemy form a wide departure from those conditions on which the alleged repeal of the French Decrees was accepted by America, and upon which
alone

alone, erroneously assuming that repeal to be complete, America has claimed a revocation of the British Orders in Council.

His Royal Highness, upon a review of all these circumstances, feels persuaded, that so soon as this formal declaration, by the government of France, of its unabated adherence to the principles and provisions of the Berlin and Milan Decrees, shall be made known in America, the government of the United States, actuated not less by a sense of justice to Great Britain, than by what is due to its own dignity, will be disposed to recall those measures of hostile exclusion, which, under a misconception of the real views and conduct of the French government, America has exclusively applied to the commerce and ships of war of Great Britain.

To accelerate a result so advantageous to the true interests of both countries, and so conducive to the re-establishment of perfect friendship between them; and to give a decisive proof of his Royal Highness's disposition to perform the engagements of his Majesty's government, by revoking the Orders in Council, whenever the French Decrees shall be actually and unconditionally repealed; his Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been this day pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, and by and with the advice of his Majesty's Privy Council, to order and declare;

"That if at any time hereafter the Berlin and Milan Decrees shall, by some authentic act of the French government, publicly promulgated, be expressly and unconditionally repealed, then, and from thenceforth, the Order in Council of the

7th day of January, 1807, and the Order in Council of the 26th day of April, 1809, shall, without any further order, be, and the same hereby are declared from thenceforth, to be wholly and absolutely revoked; and further, that the full benefit of this order shall be extended to any ship or vessel captured subsequent to such authentic act of repeal of the French Decrees, although antecedent to such repeal, such ship or vessel shall have commenced, and shall be in the prosecution of a voyage, which, under the said Orders in Council, or one of them, would have subjected her to capture and condemnation; and the claimant of any ship or cargo which shall be captured at any time subsequent to such authentic act of repeal by the French government, shall, without any further order or declaration on the part of his Majesty's government on this subject, be at liberty to give in evidence in the High Court of Admiralty, or any Court of Vice-Admiralty, before which such ship or vessel, or its cargo, shall be brought for adjudication, that such repeal by the French government had been by such authentic act promulgated prior to such capture; and upon proof thereof, the voyage shall be deemed and taken to have been as lawful as if the said Orders in Council had never been made; saving nevertheless to the captors such protection and indemnity as they may be equitably entitled to, in the judgment of the said court, by reason of their ignorance or uncertainty as to the repeal of the French Decrees, or of the recognition of such repeal by his Majesty's government, at the time of such capture.

"His Royal Highness, however, deems

deems it proper to declare, that, should the repeal of the French Decrees, thus anticipated and provided for, afterwards prove to have been illusory on the part of the enemy; and should the restrictions thereof be still practically enforced, or revived by the enemy, Great Britain will be obliged, however reluctantly, after reasonable notice to Neutral Powers, to have recourse to such measures of retaliation as may then appear to be just and necessary."

Westminster, April 21, 1812.

The Catholic Petition.—To his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

The humble Petition of his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects of Ireland, sheweth,

That we humbly approach your Royal Highness, as the guardian of the honour and interests of this great empire, and presume respectfully to submit to your royal consideration, our peculiar condition under the penal laws now in force against us.

The generous and elevated character which the people of Ireland have long been taught to attach to the name of your Royal Highness, has impressed us with the pleasing confidence, that the glorious work of effectually relieving the Roman Catholics of these realms from their numerous sufferings, has been reserved for your gracious and happy interposition in our favour.

We have publicly and solemnly taken every oath of fidelity and allegiance, which the jealous caution of the legislature has, from time to time, imposed as tests of our political and moral principles; and al-

though we are still set apart (how wounding to every sentiment of honour!) as if unworthy of credit in these our sworn declarations, we can appeal confidently to the sacrifices which we and our forefathers have long made, and which we still make (rather than violate conscience by taking oaths of a spiritual import contrary to our belief) as decisive proofs of our profound reverence for the sacred obligation of an oath.

By those awful tests we have bound ourselves, in the presence of the All-seeing Deity, whom all classes of Christians adore, "To be faithful, and bear true allegiance to our most gracious sovereign Lord King George the Third, and him to defend to the utmost of our power against all conspiracies and attempts whatsoever against his person, crown, or dignity: to use our utmost endeavours to disclose and make known to his Majesty, and his heirs, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies which may be formed against him or them; and faithfully to maintain, support, and defend, to the utmost of our power, the succession to the crown in his Majesty's family, against all persons whomsoever.—That by those oaths, we have renounced and abjured obedience and allegiance unto any other person claiming or pretending a right to the crown of this realm —That we have rejected, as unchristian and impious to believe the detestable doctrine, that it is lawful, in any ways, to injure any person or persons whomsoever, under pretence of their being heretics —And also that unchristian and impious principle, that no faith is to be kept with heretics—that it is no article of our faith; and we re-

nounce,

nounce, reject, and abjure the opinion, that Princes excommunicated by the Pope and Council, or by any authority whatsoever, may be deposed or murdered by their subjects, or by any person whatsoever—That we do not believe that the Pope of Rome, or any other foreign prince, prelate, state, or potentate hath, or ought to have, any temporal or civil jurisdiction, power, superiority, or pre-eminence, within this realm—That we firmly believe, that no act, in itself unjust, immoral, or wicked, can ever be justified or excused by, or under pretence or colour that it was done for the good of the church, or in obedience to any ecclesiastical power whatsoever—And that it is not an article of the Catholic Faith, neither are we thereby required to believe or profess, that the Pope is infallible, or that we are bound to any order, in its own nature immoral, though the Pope, or any ecclesiastical power, should issue or direct such order, but that on the contrary we hold, that it would be sinful in us to pay any respect or obedience thereto—That we do not believe that any sin whatsoever, committed by us, can be forgiven at the mere will of any Pope, or of any priest, or of any person or persons whatsoever; but that any person who receives absolution, without a sincere sorrow for such sin, and a firm and sincere resolution to avoid future guilt, and to atone to God, so far from obtaining thereby any remission of his sin, incurs the additional guilt of violating a sacrament—And, by the most solemn obligations, we are bound and firmly pledged to defend, to the utmost of our power, the settlement and arrangement of property in Ireland, as established by the

laws now in being. That we have declared, disavowed, and solemnly abjured, any intention to subvert the present Church establishment, for the purpose of substituting a Catholic establishment in its stead.

And we have solemnly sworn that we will not exercise any privilege, to which we are or may become entitled, to disturb and weaken the Protestant religion, or Protestant government in Ireland.

We can with perfect truth assure your Royal Highness, that the political and moral principles, asserted by these solemn and special tests, are not merely in unison with our fixed principles, but expressly inculcated by the religion which we profess.

And we do most humbly trust, that, as professors of doctrines which permit such tests to be taken, we shall appear to your Royal Highness to be entitled to the full enjoyment of religious freedom, under the happy constitution of these realms.

Frequently has the legislature of Ireland borne testimony to the uniform peaceable demeanour of the Irish Roman Catholics—to their acknowledged merits as good and loyal subjects—to the wisdom and sound policy of admitting them to all the blessings of a free constitution, and of thus binding together all classes of the people by mutual interest and mutual affection.

Yet may we humbly represent to your Royal Highness—and we do so at this perilous crisis with sincere regret and deep solicitude—that the Roman Catholics of Ireland still remain subject to severe and humiliating laws, rigidly enforced, universally felt, and inflicting upon them divers injurious and vexatious disabilities,

disabilities, incapacities, privations, and penalties, by reason of their conscientious adherence to the religious doctrines of their forefathers.

For nearly the entire period of the last twenty years, the progress of religious freedom has been obstructed; and, whilst other Christian nations have hastened to unbind the fetters imposed upon religious dissent, the Roman Catholics of Ireland have remained unrelieved.

The laws, which unequivocally attest our innocence and our merits, continue to load us with the pains of guilt; our own consciences—the voice of mankind—acquit us of crime and offence. Our Protestant fellow-citizens press forward with generous ardour and enlightened benevolence, to testify their earnest wishes for our relief. Yet these penal laws, of which we humbly complain, cherish the spirit of hostility, and impede the cordial union of the people, which is at all times so desirable, and now so necessary.

These penal laws operate for no useful or meritorious purpose. Affording no aid to the constitution in church or state—not attaching affection to either—they are efficient only for objects of disunion and disaffection.

They separate the Protestant from the Catholic, and withdraw both from the public good; they irritate man against his fellow creature, alienate the subject from the state, and leave the Roman Catholic community but a precarious and imperfect protection as the reward of fixed and unbroken allegiance.

We forbear to detail the numerous incapacities and inconveniences inflicted by those laws, directly or indirectly, upon the Ro-

man Catholic community—or to dwell upon the humiliating and ignominious system of exclusion, reproach, and suspicion, which they generate and keep alive. Perhaps no other age or nation has ever witnessed severities more vexatious, or inflictions more taunting, than those which we have long endured; and of which but too large a portion still remains.

Relief from these disabilities and penalties we have sought through every channel that has appeared to us to be legitimate and eligible. We have never consciously violated, or sought to violate, the known laws of the land; nor have we pursued our object in any other manner, than such as has been usually adhered to, and apparently the best calculated to collect and communicate our united sentiments accurately, without tumult, and to obviate all pretext for asserting that the Roman Catholic community at large were indifferent to the pursuit of their freedom.

We can affirm, with perfect sincerity, that we have no latent views to realize—no secret or sinister objects to attain. Any such imputation must be effectually repelled, as we humbly conceive, by the consideration of our numbers, our property, our known principles and character.

Our object is avowed and direct—earnest, yet natural. It extends to an equal participation of the civil rights of the constitution of our country—equally with our fellow-subjects of all other religious persuasions: it extends no further.

We would cheerfully concede the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty to all mankind: we ask no more for ourselves.

We seek not the possession of offices, but mere eligibility to office, in common with our fellow-citizens; not power or ascendancy over any class of people, but the bare permission to rise from our prostrate posture, and to stand erect in the empire.

We have been taught that, according to the pure and practical principles of the British Constitution, property is justly entitled to a proportionate share of power; and we humbly trust, that no reasonable apprehension can arise from that power, which can only be obtained and exercised through the Constitution.

We are sensible and we do not regret, that this equality of civil rights (which alone we humbly sue for) will leave a fair practical ascendancy, wheresoever property shall predominate; but, whilst we recognize and acknowledge the wholesomeness of this great principle, we cannot admit the necessity of the unqualified disfranchisement of any part of the people, in a Constitution like that of these realms.

We are gratified by the reflection, that the attainment of this our constitutional object will prove as conducive to the welfare and security of this great empire, as to the complete relief of the Roman Catholic community; that it will secure the quiet and concord of our country; animate all classes of the people in the common defence, and form the most stable protection against the dangers which heavily menace these islands.

For we most humbly presume to submit it to your Royal Highness, as our firm opinion, that an equal degree of enthusiasm cannot reasonably be expected from men,

who feel themselves excluded from a fair participation of the blessings of a good Constitution and Government, as from those who fully partake of its advantages; that the enemies of this empire, who meditate its subjugation, found their best hopes of success upon the effects of those penal laws, which, by depressing millions of the inhabitants of Ireland, may weaken their attachment to their country, and impair the means of its defence; and that the continued pressure of these laws, in times of unexpected danger, only spreads the general feeling of distrustful alarm, and augments the risk of common ruin.

To avert such evils, to preserve and promote the welfare and security of this empire, and to become thoroughly identified with our fellow subjects in interests and affection, are objects as precious in our eyes, upon every consideration of property, principle, and moral duty, as in those of any other description of the inhabitants of these realms.

If, in thus humbly submitting our depressed condition and our earnest hopes to the consideration of your Royal Highness, we would dwell upon the great numbers and the property of the Roman Catholics of Ireland, already so considerable and so rapidly increasing, and to their consequent most important contributions to the exigencies of the State; we would do so, not with a view of exciting unworthy motives for concession, but in the honest hope of suggesting legitimate and rational grounds of constitutional relief.

And deeply indeed should we lament, if these very recommendations,

tions should serve only to hold us out as the objects of harsh suspicion at home, or of daring attempts upon our allegiance from abroad.

May we, then, with hearts deeply interested in the fate of this our humble supplication, presume to appeal to the wisdom and benignity of your Royal Highness on behalf of a very numerous, industrious, affectionate, and faithful body of people, the Roman Catholics of Ireland.

And to pray, that your Royal Highness may be pleased to take into your valuable consideration the whole of our condition; our numbers, our services, our merits, and our sufferings.

And, as we are conscious of the purity of our motives and the integrity of our principles, we therefore humbly pray to be restored to the rights and privileges of the Constitution of our country; to be freed from all penal and disabling laws in force against us on account of our religious faith; and that we may thereby become more worthy, as well as more capable, of promoting the service of the Crown, and the substantial interests of this great empire, now committed to the unrestricted wisdom of your Royal Highness.

Message respecting Mr. Perceval's Family.

The Prince Regent, deeply impressed with the severe loss his Royal Highness and the country have sustained in consequence of the murder of the Right Honourable Spencer Perceval, and being desirous of marking his sense of the public and private virtues of

Mr. Perceval, and of affording relief and assistance to his numerous and afflicted family, recommends to the House of Commons to enable his Royal Highness, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, to make such provision for the widow and family of the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval as to the justice and liberality of Parliament may seem proper.

G. P. R.

Papers relative to Lord Liverpool's Proposal to Lord Wellesley, May 17, 1812.

No. 1.

Minute of Conversation between Mr. Canning and Lord Liverpool, dated 17th May, 1812.

*Gloucester Lodge, Sunday,
May 17, 1812.*

Lord Liverpool stated to me, that he was commanded by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to make me the following communication:

That upon the melancholy event of Mr. Perceval's death, his Royal Highness being desirous of continuing his administration upon its present basis, was desirous also of strengthening it as much as possible, by associating to it such persons in public life as agreed most nearly and generally in the principles upon which public affairs had been conducted.

That with this view his Royal Highness naturally looked to Lord Wellesley and to me.

That he (Lord Liverpool) was authorised to express the disposition of all his colleagues to act with Lord Wellesley and me, under an arrangement

arrangement which might be at once consistent with their own honour and duty, and honourable and satisfactory to us.

That with respect to Lord Castlereagh, it was fair that it should be distinctly understood, that the situation in which he stands both in this government, and in the House of Commons, was to be preserved to him.

That with respect to official arrangements, he (Lord L.) would not have been the bearer of any proposition to me, but one which was understood as comprising my friends. In answer to a question put by me, Lord L. stated, that his colleagues were desirous, that he should be appointed to the office of First Lord of the Treasury; and that this desire was known to the Prince Regent, when his Royal Highness commanded Lord Liverpool to undertake this communication.

Lord Liverpool added, that he was ready to answer any other inquiry that I might wish to make; or to clear up any thing that he might have imperfectly explained. I said, that I thought it better to receive his communication just as he gave it to me; and to defer making any remark, or giving any answer whatever, until I should have communicated it to my friends; Lord Liverpool himself undertaking to see Lord Wellesley.

I would only, therefore, ask—Whether I was to consider the opinion and policy of the government as remaining altogether unchanged upon the question relating to the laws affecting the Roman Catholics?

Lord Liverpool answered, that his own opinions upon this subject remained unchanged; and that he

was not aware that those of his colleagues had undergone any change.

I then wrote this minute in Lord Liverpool's presence; which he read over, and suggested such corrections as appeared to him necessary for making it perfectly accurate.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

No. 2.

Minute of Conversation between Lord Wellesley and Lord Liverpool, 17th May, 1812.

*Apsley-House, 17th May, 1812,
½ past 5 p. m.*

Lord Liverpool came to me immediately after his visit to Mr. Canning, and remained with me for about half an hour. Soon after Lord Liverpool's departure, I received the annexed paper from Mr. Canning.

Lord Liverpool's conversation with me was substantially the same as that which is described to have passed with Mr. Canning. Any difference which appeared, arose necessarily from my questions and observations, which were made without knowledge of what passed between Lord Liverpool and Mr. Canning. After receiving Lord Liverpool's verbal communication, nearly in the terms stated by Mr. Canning, I inquired (1st.) what was to be the policy of the government with relation to the Roman Catholics? To this question Lord Liverpool returned the same answer stated in Mr. Canning's paper to have been returned to a similar question.

2dly, I observed to Lord Liverpool, that he was apprised of my opinion, that our efforts in the Peninsula

Peninsula had been conducted on an inadequate and imperfect scale, which could not be expected to accomplish the ultimate objects of the war in that quarter : that I had for a long time considered an extension of our system in the Peninsula to be indispensably necessary, and easily practicable : that I was aware of the impropriety (in my present situation) of urging any detailed questions to Lord Liverpool on this point ; but that I mentioned it now, because it must form a principal consideration in my answer to the proposition which he had brought to me.

Lord Liverpool said, that he did not agree in my opinion respecting the scale of the efforts which we had hitherto made in the Peninsula, which he thought as great as it had been possible to make ; that there never had been any limit to our exertions in that quarter, but what arose out of the question of practicability (that is, the means of increasing and supplying our armies) ; and that he had never heard any specific plan by which those means might have been carried further, though the subject had been often most anxiously considered in my presence : that circumstances had occurred since my resignation, which did not then exist, and into the particulars of which it would not be proper for him to enter at this time, which might enable government to extend, to a certain degree, the military operations in the Peninsula ; and the system of himself and his colleagues would be, as he contended they always had been, to make the greatest efforts in the cause of the Peninsula which the resources of the country rendered possible.

3dly, I inquired whether all the general constituent parts of the present cabinet were to remain ? He informed me that they were in general to remain. He believed it was known to me, that some of the members of the cabinet had been long desirous of retiring, and would be ready, therefore, now to afford facilities to any new arrangement.

In answer to a question put by me respecting Lord Sidmouth and his friends, he said they were to remain.

4thly, I stated to Lord Liverpool, that I made no inquiry respecting the proposed distribution and allocation of offices ; because that circumstance would not constitute the basis of my decision upon the proposition which he had brought to me.

Lord Liverpool observed, that the distribution of offices was a matter open to future adjustment, to be regulated for the honour of all parties.

5thly, When Lord Liverpool informed me, that *the leading* in the House of Commons was to be preserved to Lord Castlereagh, I remarked, that in any situation which I might ever hold in any administration, I should feel great obligation to any member of the government who would undertake that charge which *was called the leading* in the House of Parliament in which I sat ; although I was fully aware of the great importance which that charge necessarily conveyed to the person who exercised it, and of the great influence which it must give to him in the general administration and patronage of the government.

6thly, I desired to know, whether all those persons now designated by
the

the name of the "Opposition," were to be excluded from the proposed scheme of administration?

Lord Liverpool answered, that no principle of exclusion was intended; but that he was not authorised to make any proposal to any persons of the description which I had mentioned.

7thly, Considering the course which Lord Liverpool had observed in making this communication, I asked him, whether he applied to me by command of the Prince Regent, as a part of Mr. Canning's suite?—I reminded Lord Liverpool of the constant and unabated exertions which I had made to open every avenue for the return of Mr. Canning to the public service; remarking at the same time, that I never had attempted to press that point beyond the honour and feelings of Mr. Perceval's administration. I stated, that I could not consider any administration to be constituted on a foundation of justice towards individual talents and services, or towards the interests of the country, in which Mr. Canning should not hold a high efficient station. But I added, that Mr. Canning was under no engagement to me which could preclude his acceptance of any office which might be offered to him; that, on the other hand, Mr. Canning would certainly make the same declaration with regard to my perfect freedom. Lord Liverpool said, that he had pursued this course of communication, being convinced, that under the present circumstances, I would not accept office, unless a fair proposal was made to Mr. Canning. I declared to Lord Liverpool, that he was correct in this view of my sentiments towards Mr. Can-

ning; repeating, however, that Mr. Canning and I were perfectly free to act as each might think fit, and that our agreement in many great public principles could not affect questions of mere official arrangement.

8thly, I expressed my wish to receive this communication in writing; to answer it in writing; and also to submit my sentiments upon the whole transaction in an audience of the Prince Regent.

Lord Liverpool informed me, that Mr. Canning would transmit to me a copy of the minute of Lord Liverpool's conversation taken in his presence, and Lord Liverpool desired me to consider that paper as the written communication which I wished to receive. I agreed to Lord Liverpool's proposal on this point. I then informed Lord Liverpool, that I would return my answer in writing to that paper. Whatever might be the tenour of my answer, with regard to the great public considerations on which it must be founded, I expressed my hope, that Lord Liverpool would be assured of my sincere personal respect and esteem. I now transmit this minute to Lord Liverpool, requesting him to insert any correction which he may think requisite.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

May 18, 1812.

Corrected by Lord Liverpool, and returned to me.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

No. 3.

Note from Mr. Canning to Lord Wellesley, inclosing a Letter to Mr. Canning from Lord Liverpool, relative to Lord Castle-reagh.

(Copy.)

(Copy.)
*Gloucester Lodge, Sunday night,
 May 17, 1812.*

My dear Wellesley,—I have just received from Lord Liverpool a letter, of which the inclosed is a copy. I transmit it to you to be added, according to his desire, to the copy of the minute of his verbal communication of this morning. Ever affectionately your's,

G. C.

Copy in No. 3.
 Lord Liverpool to Mr. Canning.
 (Private)

Fife-house, May 17, 1812.

My dear Canning,—I think, upon reflection, it is due to Lord Castlereagh to state, in writing, what I mentioned to you, verbally, that from motives of delicacy, he absented himself from the cabinet, on the occasions on which the subject in your memorandum was determined.

I did not, however, make the communication to you without having reason to know that he would be no obstacle in the way of an arrangement, founded on the principles in the memorandum.

I will beg of you to communicate this letter to any persons to whom you may communicate the memorandum.

(Signed) LIVERPOOL.

No. 4.

Copy of a Letter from Marquis Wellesley to the Earl of Liverpool, transmitting Lord W.'s Reply to Lord Liverpool's Proposal.

*Apsley-house, May 18, 1812,
 half-past three p.m.*

My dear Lord,—I inclose a paper, containing my reply to the

communication which you were so kind as to make to me yesterday. Although I find myself compelled to decline the proposal which you conveyed, I request you to accept my grateful thanks for the amicable and satisfactory manner in which you communicated with me; and to be assured, that I shall always entertain the most sincere and cordial sentiments of personal respect and esteem for you.

Believe me, my dear lord, most sincerely your's,
 (Signed) WELLESLEY.

In No. 4.

Lord Wellesley's Reply to Lord Liverpool's Proposition.

Apsley-house, May 18.

From the communication received through Lord Liverpool, I understand, that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been graciously pleased to signify his desire of strengthening his administration upon its present basis, by associating me with it, as one of those persons, who agree most nearly and generally in the principles upon which public affairs have been conducted.

From the same communication I also derive the gratifying intelligence, that all Lord Liverpool's colleagues have authorised him to express a disposition to act with me, under an arrangement, consistent with their own honour and duty, and honourable and satisfactory to me.

I receive this notification of the Prince Regent's commands with every sentiment of duty and affection, while it affords me matter of just satisfaction, that, to the distinguished honour of such condescending notice from his Royal Highness,

Highness, is added so high a testimony of the confidence and esteem of all the respectable persons composing his present administration.

With all humility towards the exalted authority from which this proposition proceeds, and with the most sincere regard for those through whom it is conveyed, I must, however, declare, that I should have declined it at the first instant of its approach, if motives of deference and submissive attachment had not imposed upon me the obligation of receiving it with respectful consideration.

The proposition necessarily rests upon a supposition, that I entertain no such difference of public sentiment with the present administration, as should preclude me from acting with them, under an arrangement compatible with our mutual and respective honour and duty.

But it appears from Lord Liverpool's candid and explicit statement, that, upon the important question, which regards the laws affecting the Roman Catholics, Lord Liverpool's opinions remain unchanged; nor is he aware, that the sentiments of his colleagues, on that subject, have undergone any change.

I must therefore conclude, that the policy which has been pursued respecting the Roman Catholics, during the present session of parliament, is to be continued without abatement; the general constituent parts of the present cabinet are to remain unchanged; the highest and most efficient offices in the state therefore, are to be filled by persons who still conceive themselves to be bound by duty, honour,

and conscience, not only to resist any mitigation of the present condition of the Roman Catholics, but even to prevent the consideration of the laws which affect that large portion of the population of the empire.

I cannot concur in the principle on which the present administration has conducted this important branch of public affairs; on this point, I have recently expressed the strongest difference of opinion with the present administration.

The declaration of Lord Liverpool precludes the hope of any such change in the policy of the present administration towards the Roman Catholics as could satisfy my judgment. This difference is of the utmost importance: without any other obstacle, therefore, this alone compels me to decline the proposition which Lord Liverpool has conveyed to me.

I entertain a confident expectation, that when the Prince Regent shall have considered the nature of this difficulty, he will extend his indulgence to my humble representation, and will relieve me from the pressure of commands, which I could not obey without sacrificing a public principle of the highest obligation.

These observations comprise a sufficient reply to the communication received through Lord Liverpool. But I deem it to be a duty towards the Prince Regent to declare, that the considerations which induced me, on the 19th of February, to resign the station which I had the honour to hold in his Royal Highness's service, have acquired additional force since that time, and would constitute an insuperable

superable obstacle to my acceptance of any station in the present administration.

I originally expressed my desire to withdraw from Mr. Perceval's administration, because my general opinions, for a long time past, on various important questions, had not sufficient weight in that cabinet, to justify me towards the public, or towards my own character, in continuing in office.

My objections to remaining in that cabinet arose, in a great degree, from the imperfect scale on which the efforts in the Peninsula were conducted. It was always stated to me, that it was impracticable to enlarge that system. I thought that it was perfectly practicable to extend the plan in the Peninsula, and that it was neither safe nor honest towards this country or the allies to continue the present inadequate scheme.

From Lord Liverpool's statement upon this point, it is evident, that since my resignation, it has been found practicable to make some extension of the system in the Peninsula; but it is still intimated, that my views are more extensive than the resources of the country can enable the government to reduce to practice. I, however, still entertain the same views and opinions, without diminution or alteration; and I am convinced, that a considerable extension of the scale of our operations in the Peninsula, and also an effectual correction of many branches of our system in that quarter, are objects of indispensable necessity, and of easy attainment.

With such a decided difference of opinion in relation to the conduct and management of the war,

my return into a cabinet composed as the present is, would offer to me no better prospect than the renewal of discussions which have hitherto proved unavailing.

I learn from Lord Liverpool, that he has received no authority, in forming the intended administration, to make any proposal to any of those persons now designated by the name of "The Opposition."

My inquiry on this point originated in a sincere conviction, (founded upon an attentive observation of the general state of public opinion, and of the condition of the empire), that no administration, which shall not comprise some of those persons, can prove advantageous to the Prince Regent, conciliatory towards Ireland, and equal to the conduct of the war on a scale of sufficient extent.

It has been stated erroneously, that the first act of the Prince Regent upon his approach to unrestricted authority was, to establish Mr. Perceval's administration: but the fact is, that his Royal Highness's first act at that crisis was, to dissolve Mr. Perceval's administration; and to endeavour to form a cabinet upon a more extended and liberal basis. This endeavour was frustrated at that moment; and the formation of such a cabinet was represented to his Royal Highness to be impracticable. It has, however, since appeared evident to me, from the discussions and declarations which I have witnessed in parliament, that his Royal Highness's benevolent intentions on that subject are now perfectly practicable; and that their accomplishment would tend to promote internal peace and tranquillity, and to invigorate

invigorate the whole system of our external operations.

Impressed with this sentiment, I should be untrue to his Royal Highness's interests and honour, as well as to the prosperity of the empire, if I concurred in any arrangement of an administration which did not include a fair and full consideration of this most important point.

After such a dispassionate consideration, my opinion is, that a cabinet might be formed, on an intermediary principle respecting the Roman Catholic claims, equally exempt from the dangers of instant, unqualified concession, and from those of inconsiderate, peremptory exclusion: the entire resources of the empire might be applied to the great objects of the war with general consent, upon a full understanding of the real exigency of the present crisis; and concord and union at home might secure ultimate and permanent success abroad.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

Gloucester Lodge, May 18, 1812.

My dear Liverpool,—I have communicated to such of my friends as I had an immediate opportunity of consulting, the minute, taken in your presence, of the proposition which you conveyed to me yesterday.

In a case in which I felt that my decision either way might be liable to misapprehension, I was desirous rather to collect the opinions of persons whose judgment I esteem, than to act on the impulse of my own first feelings.

The result of their opinions is, that, by entering into the administration upon the terms proposed to me, I should incur such a loss of

personal and public character as would disappoint the object which his Royal Highness the Prince Regent has at heart; and must render my accession to his government a new source of weakness, rather than an addition of strength.

To become a part of your administration with the previous knowledge of your unaltered opinions as to the policy of resisting all consideration of the state of the laws affecting his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects, would, it is felt, be, to lend myself to the defeating of my own declared opinions on that most important question: opinions which are as far as those of any man from being favourable to precipitate and unqualified concession; but which rest on the conviction that it is the duty of the advisers of the crown, with a view to the peace, tranquillity, and strength of the empire, to take that whole question into their early and serious consideration; and earnestly to endeavour to bring it to a final and satisfactory settlement.

With this result of the opinions of those whom I have consulted, my own entirely concurs; and such being the ground of my decision, it is wholly unnecessary to advert to any topics of inferior importance.

After the expressions, however, with which you were charged on the part of all your colleagues, I should not be warranted in omitting to declare, that no objection of a personal sort should have prevented me from uniting with any, or all of them, in the public service, if I could have done so with honour; and if, in my judgment, a cabinet, so constituted in all its parts, could have afforded to the country, under its present great and various difficulties,

culties, an adequately efficient administration. I cannot deny myself the satisfaction of adding, that the manner of your communication with me has entirely corresponded with the habits and sentiments of a friendship of so many years; a friendship which our general concurrence on many great political principles has strengthened, and which our occasional differences have in no degree impaired.

On the public grounds which I have stated, I must entreat you to lay at the feet of the Prince Regent, together with the warmest expressions of my dutiful attachment to his Royal Highness, and of my acknowledgment for the favourable opinion which his Royal Highness has been graciously pleased to entertain of me, my humble but earnest prayer to be excused from accepting office on terms which, by a sacrifice of public character, must render me inefficient for the service of his Royal Highness's government.

I presume, at the same time, humbly to solicit an audience of the Prince Regent, for the purpose of explaining in person to his Royal Highness the grounds of my conduct, on an occasion on which I should be grieved to think, that his Royal Highness could, for a moment, consider me as wanting either in duty to his Royal Highness, or in zeal for the public service, and assuring his Royal Highness that my inability to assist in forwarding his Highness's purpose of procuring strength to his administration, on the plan which has been suggested by his Royal Highness's confidential servants, does not arise from any disposition, on

my part, to shrink from the encounter of those difficulties which press, at this time, upon the country and upon the crown.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEO. CANNING.

No. 5.

Explanatory Letter from Lord Liverpool to the Marquis Wellesley.

Fife-house, May 19, 1812.

My dear Lord,—After the receipt of the paper which you sent to me in the afternoon of yesterday, I should certainly have felt it to be unnecessary and fruitless to trouble you with any further correspondence, if I were not desirous to correct the misapprehension into which you appear to have fallen respecting my opinions, and those of my colleagues, upon the Roman Catholic question.

In the communication which passed between us on Sunday, as well as that which I previously had with Mr. Canning, I certainly stated my opinions upon the Roman Catholic question to remain unchanged, and that I was not aware that those of my colleagues had undergone any change.

With respect to myself individually, I must protest against its being inferred from any declaration of mine, that it is, or ever has been my opinion, that under no circumstances it would be possible to make any alteration in the laws respecting the Roman Catholics.

Upon the last occasion on which the subject was discussed in Parliament, I expressly stated, that circumstances might arise, in which, in my judgment, some alteration in those laws would be advisable

advisable. I have always been desirous of hearing the specific proposition which should explain, distinctly, what part of the existing securities it was intended to repeal—what part it was intended to preserve—and what were the new securities which it has been so often declared must be substituted in the place of some of those which are at present in force.

I have never heard any satisfactory explanation on this point.

I will fairly own, that in the present state of the opinions and feelings of the Roman Catholics, I do not believe such a project to be practicable, consistently with the attainment of the avowed objects of really satisfying the Roman Catholics, and of affording an adequate security to the established church and constitution.

Entertaining this opinion, I have felt it to be my duty to continue to resist parliamentary inquiry on that subject, which, in my judgment, could be productive of no other effect than that of alarming the Protestants on the one hand, and deluding and deceiving the Roman Catholics on the other.

With respect to the opinions of my colleagues, there are some who entirely agree with me in the view which I have taken of this question; but I am sure it must be known to you from discussions at which you have been present, that there are others who have always entertained and avowed different opinions from those professed by me, upon some parts of this subject.

You must recollect that considerations of a very high importance, but which might be only temporary in their nature, induced

us all, up to a very late period, to be decidedly of opinion that it was not proper, that under such circumstances the measure should be entertained.

You may be of opinion that since the month of February last these considerations have ceased to be in force; but they are still regarded by others as not having lost their weight. Besides the consideration to which I have referred, the conduct and temper which the Roman Catholics have been induced to manifest,—the principle upon which the question has been brought forward,—the circumstances of Europe at this time, give rise to objections which are felt in a greater or less degree by different persons.

I have thought this explanation due to my colleagues and to myself.

In one point we are all agreed, that this is not the moment at which the question ought to be entertained with a view to any immediate practical consequence. I am aware, that in this sense of our duty, our opinions may be at variance with your's; but it is material that these opinions should not be misunderstood, or subject to the interpretation to which my silence might render them liable, if I had not returned some answer to that part of your paper.

Upon the subject of the manner in which the war in the Peninsula has been managed, I forbear entering into any particulars at present; but I think it material to observe, with respect to my declaration, that since your resignation it had been found practicable to make some extension of the military efforts in the Peninsula, that this

has not arisen from any means which were in existence at the time when you were in office, and which there had been then any indisposition or objection to direct to that object, but it has grown out of events which have subsequently occurred, and which may place at the disposal of government means which were at that time unavoidably applied to another service.

As this letter is merely explanatory, I will not give you the trouble of returning any answer to it; but I am sure you will see the justice and propriety of considering it as a part of the correspondence which has passed between us on the subject to which it relates.

I am, &c.

(Signed) LIVERPOOL.

Marquis Wellesley, K. G.

No. 6.

Copy of Lord Wellesley's Reply to
Lord Liverpool's Explanatory
Letter of the 19th May, 1812.

Apsley-house, May 21, 1812.

My dear Lord,—Although you have had the goodness to dispense with my returning any answer to your letter of the 19th inst. some further observations on my part may, perhaps, contribute to promote the professed object of that letter, by explaining and correcting whatever may appear doubtful or erroneous in the course of our recent correspondence.

When you informed me, that your opinion upon the claims of the Roman Catholics remained unchanged, and that you were not aware of any change in the opinion of your colleagues on that subject, I certainly concluded, that the policy which has been pursued during

the present session of parliament, would be continued by the new cabinet. Subsequent reflection satisfies me, that such a conclusion was just and reasonable; nor can I admit, that I have fallen into any misapprehension of that system of policy, when I have described it as consisting, not only in the denial of any present relief to the Roman Catholics, but even a peremptory refusal to consider the state of the law which affects their civil condition.

Whatever may be the different character or complexion of the opinions of the several members of the present cabinet, the practical result has been to pursue the course which I have described, during the present session of parliament; and your explanation on this point closes with an admission that you are all agreed to continue the same policy in the present moment.

No suggestion is made of the time or circumstances, in which any alteration of this system of policy can be expected; no prospect is afforded of any conciliatory proceeding, which might tend to open the way to an amicable settlement; and, while a desire of hearing specific propositions of security is professed, the very consideration of the question is denied to parliament, and is not pursued by any other authority.

This statement is no misapprehension of the tenor of your explanatory letter; and in such a state of the practical consequences of the united councils of the present cabinet, it may be deemed superfluous to analyze individual sentiments.

This task (however useless with regard

regard to present practice) is required from me, by the strong protest which you have made against any inference to be drawn from any declaration of your's "that it is, or ever has been your opinion, that *under no circumstances* it would be possible to make any alteration in the laws respecting the Roman Catholics." To this protest, you have added an assurance, "That upon the last occasion, on which the subject was discussed in parliament, you expressly stated that *circumstances might arise* in which, in your judgment, some alteration in those laws would be advisable."

I confess freely to you, that I had always understood your recorded opinion on this subject in a very different sense: I had supposed, that you considered the disabilities imposed by statute upon the Roman Catholics, not as temporary and occasional securities, against a temporary and occasional danger, but as an integral and permanent part of the constitution in church and state, established at the revolution.

In this opinion, I had always understood, that several of the principal members of the present cabinet concurred with you; and that you felt, in common, an apprehension, that the removal of any important part of this system of restraint would endanger the foundations of the establishment of our laws, liberties, and religion.

Viewing in this light your sentiments, and those of the respectable persons to whom I refer, I am persuaded that I shall not be suspected of intending to cast any reflection upon the honour or honesty of those principles, or of the persons who maintain them.

I have ever considered those principles to be pure and honest in the minds in which I supposed them to reside; and, while I gave full credit to their sincerity, I lamented their erroneous foundation and dangerous tendency.

I must further declare, that from some accident, I did not hear the statement in parliament to which you refer, as having been made by you, on the last occasion in the House of Lords.

I now, however, understand your opinion to be, that *circumstances may arise*, in which, in your judgment, some alteration would be advisable in the laws affecting the Roman Catholics.

I should be desirous of urging the same inquiry respecting *circumstances*, which you have made respecting *securities*; and I should be anxious to hear the specific statement of all, or any of those circumstances, under which you would advise any alteration in the laws respecting the Roman Catholics.

The explanation which you require respecting securities, is attainable only by a full consideration and discussion of the whole subject; and I therefore view the declared intention of resisting the first step towards such a discussion, as an effectual barrier against that explanation, which you consider to be the necessary preliminary to any alteration of the existing statutes.

The details of your reasoning on this part of the question render the prospect of any settlement utterly hopeless. You require a change in the state of the opinions, feelings, conduct, and temper of the Roman Catholics, as a preliminary
even

even to the consideration of the causes of their complaints. But is it possible to expect effectual change in the temper of the Roman Catholic body, while you refuse even to inquire into the nature of their grievances?

The repeated rejection of their claim, without any other deliberation than that which has arisen on the mere question of taking the petition into consideration, is not a course of proceeding calculated to mitigate the severity of disappointment.

Reason and moderation must appear in our consideration of their prayer, if we hope to infuse those qualities into their proceedings.

You require, also, a change in the circumstances of Europe.—Ignorant of the events which may have furnished any hope of such a change, since I had the honour of a share in his Royal Highness's councils, I must consider the determination to delay this interesting question, until Europe shall have assumed a new aspect, as a virtual negative upon the substance of the claim; and I feel this point with a greater degree of pain, because I am convinced, that the continuance of Ireland in her present condition, must protract, if not perpetuate, the present unhappy condition of Europe.

But, until these preliminaries shall have been established, you declare, that it will be your duty to resist parliamentary inquiry, which, in your judgment, could be productive of no other effect, than “to alarm the Protestants, and to delude the Roman Catholics.” At the same time, you offer no hope, that the means of relief will be opened by any other authority.

I cannot understand through what channel of reason, or passion, the Protestants should be alarmed, or the Catholics deluded, by a full and fair consideration of the state of the laws affecting the latter body. Indeed, I cannot conceive any proceeding so likely to remove alarm, and prevent delusion, as that which appears to you likely to create both.

On the other hand, I apprehend much more danger, both of alarm and of delusion, from any system of measures to be founded on the general and indistinct terms, in which you state, that “circumstances may arise, in which some alteration in the laws would be advisable.”

You refer to considerations of a “very high importance,” which, until a very late period of time, have precluded the executive government and parliament from entertaining this measure; and you suggest, that in the opinion of some persons, these considerations have not lost their weight.

I presume, that you refer to the sentiments of the most exalted and venerable authority in these realms, on the claims of his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects.

As your letter seems to bear some reference to the course of my conduct in parliament, and in his Majesty's councils on this subject, I avail myself of this opportunity to explain the motives, both of my former silence, and of the recent declaration of my sentiments.

At the remote period of the year 1797, upon the eve of my departure for India, I stated to the late Mr. Pitt my solicitude, that he should direct his attention to the settlement of Ireland; and I expressed

pressed to him my conviction, that Ireland could neither be happily settled, nor firmly united to Great Britain, without a concurrent settlement of the claims of his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects. The opinions which I declared to Mr. Pitt, at that time, respecting the substance of those claims, were precisely similar to those which I have stated in the House of Lords during the present session of parliament.

It is not necessary to enter upon any review of the transactions which passed during my absence in India, with relation to Ireland, or to the claims of the Roman Catholics.

I arrived from India in the month of January, 1806; and after one short interview with Mr. Pitt, I assisted in performing the last sad office of following his remains to the grave.

You are aware, that long before that period of time, the "high considerations" to which you refer, had been fixed in full force; that no attempt to change those sentiments could have been made with any prospect of success; and that the result, even of a successful proceeding in parliament, would have tended only to produce the most dreadful extremity of confusion.

You must remember, that I have always lamented (as serious national calamities, menacing the constitution of the monarchy) the reference, which has necessarily been made to the existence of those personal sentiments, and the causes which have occasioned that necessity.

With the warmest sentiments of personal veneration, attachment, and gratitude, my opinion has al-

ways been, that the duty of loyalty and affection towards a British sovereign does not consist in submissive obedience, even to the honest prejudices or errors of the royal mind, but rather in respectful endeavours to remove those prejudices and errors, by free advice in council; and by temperate remonstrance in Parliament.

But the time for such endeavours had passed; and I submitted reluctantly, not to my sense of the genuine duty of a faithful counsellor towards his sovereign, but to the painful, and, by me, irreversible necessity of the case.

This is a subject of the utmost, of the most perilous delicacy:—your letter has opened it:—I will pursue it no further than to assure you, that when, on the 31st of January, I declared in the House of Lords, my sentiments respecting the Roman Catholic claims, the necessity which had occasioned my silence appeared to me to have entirely ceased.

The second point of your explanatory letter refers to the management of the war in the Peninsula.

Your suggestions are necessarily indistinct, with regard to the additional means (which have occurred since my resignation), of extending our military efforts in that quarter: I think I can collect even from your hints, that although those means are extraneous, the probability of their existence might have been foreseen, as the natural result of instructions which were in progress of execution previously to my resignation.

But my objection to the system pursued in the Peninsula, at the time of my resignation, was applied to the whole frame and fabric
of

of our permanent arrangements both in Portugal and Spain, which, in my judgment, must be corrected and extended, not only with a view to the advantageous use of such means as we now possess in the Peninsula, but even of such adventitious and extraneous means as events in other quarters may place at our disposal. Believe me, my dear Lord, always your's most sincerely,

(Signed) WELLESLEY.
The Earl of Liverpool, &c.

Papers relative to the Negotiations of the Marquis Wellesley and the Earl of Moira, for forming a New Administration.

No. 1.

Minute of Mr. Canning's Communication to the Earl of Liverpool, May 23d.

Fife House, May 23rd, 1812.

The Prince Regent having laid his commands on Lord Wellesley to form a plan of an administration, to be submitted for his Royal Highness's approbation, Mr. Canning was requested by Lord Wellesley (as the channel of communication thought likely to be most agreeable to Lord Liverpool), to inquire of Lord Liverpool, whether there would be a disposition on the part of Lord Liverpool, and of his colleagues, or of any of them, to entertain any proposal which should be made to them for forming part of such an administration.

The principles upon which the administration was intended to be formed, were stated to be,

1st. The taking into the early and serious consideration of the executive government the state of the laws affecting the Roman Catholics, with a sincere and earnest desire to bring that important question to a final and satisfactory settlement.

2dly. The prosecution of the war in the Peninsula, with the best means of the country.

It was stated that there would be the strongest wish to comprehend in the arrangement, without any individual or party exclusion whatever, as many as possible of such persons as might be able to agree in giving their public service to the country on these two principles.

With respect to the distribution of offices, it was stated, that nothing of any sort was decided, or stipulated; but that every thing would be open to be arranged to the honour and satisfaction of all parties.

No. 2.

Lord Liverpool's Letter to Mr. Canning, May 23rd.

Fife House, May 23rd, 1812.

My dear Canning,—I have communicated to my colleagues the memorandum which I received from you this afternoon.

They do not think it necessary to enter into any discussion of the principles stated in that memorandum, because they all feel themselves bound, particularly after what has recently passed, to decline the proposal of becoming members of an administration to be formed by Lord Wellesley.

Believe me, &c. &c.

LIVERPOOL.
No. 3.

No. 3.

Lord Melville's Letter to Mr. Canning, May 23rd.

Park Lane, May 23rd, 1812.

Dear Canning, —You will probably have received to-night from Lord Liverpool, the answer to the proposal which you left with him and communicated to me this afternoon. Having stated to you my strong repugnance, or rather my decided objection, under present circumstances, to join an administration of which Lord Wellesley was to be the head, it might be sufficient for me to refer to Lord Liverpool's reply, more especially as I do not wish to enter into any detailed reasoning on a question relating to a matter of personal feeling. I think it due, however, to you, as well as to myself, to state distinctly, that I have no objection to act with an administration formed on the two principles mentioned in your memorandum; though I think it improbable that any consideration, which the government can give to the subject of the restrictions on the Roman Catholics, will enable it to propose such a system as will wholly satisfy their claims, and at the same time afford that degree of security to the Protestant establishment, which is generally felt to be necessary.—I remain, &c.

MELVILLE.

No. 4.

Minute of a Communication made by Lord Wellesley to Lords Grey and Grenville, at Lord Grey's house, May 23rd.

Lord Wellesley stated, that he had received the commands of his

royal highness the Prince Regent, to lay before his Royal Highness the plan of such an administration as he (Lord Wellesley) might deem adapted to the present crisis of affairs.

That he had apprised his Royal Highness of the necessity of ascertaining the views and dispositions of all parties with regard to certain general principles previously to the formation of any such plan.

That he considered himself merely as the instrument of executing his Royal Highness's commands on this occasion, and that he neither claimed nor desired for himself any station in the administration which it was in his Royal Highness's contemplation to form.

Under these circumstances, he requested to know whether any obstacle existed to the concurrence of Lords Grey and Grenville; or their friends, in the following general principles, as the basis upon which an administration might be formed.

First, That the state of the laws affecting the Roman Catholics, and the claims of that body of his Majesty's subjects, should be taken into immediate consideration, with a view to a conciliatory adjustment of those claims.

Secondly, That the war in the Peninsula should be prosecuted on a scale of adequate vigour.

Lord Wellesley stated, that, as Mr. Canning and he agreed in these principles, he had requested Mr. Canning to communicate them to Lord Liverpool.

Lord Wellesley has reduced the substance of this communication to

to writing, and now submits it to Lord Grey and Lord Grenville.

WELLESLEY.

No. 5.

Lord Moira's Letter to Lord Wellesley, dated May 23rd, relative to No. 4.

*St. James's Place,
May 23rd, 1812.*

My lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the minutes of the conversation which your lordship held with Lords Grey and Grenville; and I feel much indebted for the communication accompanying them.

The proposed consideration of the Catholic claims, and the adoption of a system of support to the Spaniards, such as may be really capable of producing a decisive result, are the two points of policy which I have long thought the most urgent for the benefit of the country. The question relative to the Orders in Council may be deemed as in effect settled by the evidence adduced before the two Houses: and the active correction of internal abuses must be confidently assumed as the object of such a ministry as is likely to be formed through your instrumentality. A plan of government, therefore, on the basis proposed by your lordship, would have my most cordial wishes. Allow me to say, that this is not to convey any implication of engagement to accept office. This is not mentioned from the remotest regard to the possible distribution of situations; nor does it involve objections to any individual, as there is nothing I should so much deprecate in the present

state of public affairs, as a spirit of exclusion. Indeed, the candour and delicacy manifested by your lordship in these communications, are a perfect pledge that the details of arrangements could not but be entirely satisfactory.

I have the honour, my lord, to be with high esteem, your lordship's very obedient and humble servant,
MOIRA.

No. 6.

Lord Lansdowne's Letter to Lord Wellesley, dated May 23rd, relative to No. 4.

*Berkeley-square, Saturday
night, May 23rd.*

My lord.—I am exceedingly sorry not to have been at home when your lordship did me the honour of calling at my house this morning, and am much obliged by the trouble you have taken in sending for my consideration, a copy of the minute of the communication made by your lordship to Lord Grey and Lord Grenville.

As Lord Grey and Lord Grenville thought proper to acquaint me confidentially with that communication, as well as the minute of the answer they proposed to return to it; and as I generally concur in the sentiments they have there stated, I shall take the liberty of referring your lordship to that paper, and shall only add there is no part of it in which I more cordially coincide with them, than in the expression of the gratification they have derived from your powerful exertions in support of the claims of the Roman catholics, and from the manner in which that subject is adverted to in your minute.

I have

I have the honour to remain with great respect, your lordship's very faithful, and most obedient servant,
 LANSDOWNE.

No. 7.

Lord Holland's Letter to Lord Wellesley, dated May 23rd, relative to No. 4.

My Lord,—I had the honour of receiving your note and inclosure, and beg leave to return my sincere thanks for your attention in sending me so interesting and so early a communication.

Lord Grenville and Lord Grey have been so good as to talk the matter over with me confidentially, and I have the satisfaction of finding that I concur generally in their views of the subject, and indeed, know no better way of expressing my opinion, than by referring you to a memorandum which, I believe, it is their intention to deliver to you to-morrow morning.

I am, my lord, your obliged and obedient humble servant,

VASSAL HOLLAND.

*Camelford House,
 May 23rd.*

No. 8.

Memorandum from Lords Grey and Grenville, May 24th, in reply to Lord Wellesley's Minute, No. 4.

May 24th, 1812.

In such a moment as the present, we feel it to be the duty of all public men, both by frank and conciliatory explanations of principle, and by the total abandonment of every personal object, to facilitate, as far as may lie in

their power, the means of giving effect to the late vote of the House of Commons, and of averting the imminent and unparalleled dangers of the country.

Lord Wellesley has selected two among the many important subjects which must engage the attention of any men, who could, in such circumstances, be called upon to consider of the acceptance of stations in public trust. On those two points, our explanation shall be as distinct as it is in our power to make it.

On the first, indeed, our opinion is too well known, and has been too recently expressed, to need repetition.

We have derived a very high gratification from Lord Wellesley's powerful exertions in support of the claims of the Roman Catholics, as well as from the manner in which that subject is adverted to in his minute, and we do not hesitate to assure him, that we will warmly support any proposal made by any ministers for the immediate consideration of those claims, with a view to their conciliatory adjustment; a measure without which, we have already declared that we can entertain no hope, in any case, of rendering our own services useful.

As to the second point, no person feels more strongly than we do, the advantages which would result from a successful termination of the present contest in Spain. But we are of opinion that the direction of military operations in an extensive war, and the more or less vigorous prosecution of those operations, are questions, not of principle, but of policy: to be regulated by circumstances, in their nature

nature temporary and fluctuating, and in many cases known only to persons in official stations, by the engagements of the country, the prospect of ultimate success, the extent of the exertions necessary for its attainment, and the means of supporting those efforts without too great a pressure on the finances and internal prosperity of the country.

On such questions, therefore, no public men, either in or out of office, can undertake for more than a deliberate and dispassionate consideration, according to the circumstances of the case as it may appear, and to such means of information as may then be within their reach.

But we cannot in sincerity conceal from Lord Wellesley, that in the present state of the finances we entertain the strongest doubts of the practicability of an increase in any branch of the public expenditure.

No. 9.

Lord Wellesley to Lord Grey, dated May 27th, communicating the termination of Lord Wellesley's Commission.

*Apsley House, May 27th, 1812,
1 o'Clock, p. m.*

My lord,—I take the earliest opportunity of communicating the inclosed papers to your lordship. The paper inclosed (No. 11.) has not reached me until within this hour. It appeared to me to be important, that the intelligence which it contains should be conveyed to your lordship, to Lord Grenville, and to your respective friends, so soon as may be practicable.

I shall be happy to have an opportunity of stating to your lordship, and to Lord Grenville, at any time that you may appoint, the whole course of my conduct, since I had the honour of seeing you.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, my lord, your lordship's most obedient and faithful servant,
WELLESLEY.

I shall remain at home for some time, and shall be happy to see your lordship and Lord Grenville, if it should be convenient.

No. 10.

Mr. Canning's Statement to Lord Melville, inclosed in No. 9.

Park Lane, May 26th, 1812.

Lord Melville having stated to Mr. Canning that the ministers, his colleagues, were considering, under the special command of his royal highness the Prince Regent, how far they could advance to meet the first of the two propositions laid down as the basis of the administration, proposed to be formed by Lord Wellesley; Mr. Canning feels it necessary before he offers any observation on that statement, to inquire in what situation Lord Melville's colleagues consider themselves as standing at the present moment.

1st. Do they consider Lord Wellesley's commission at an end, and the former administration as re-established?

2d. Are the discussions, which are now going on among them, directed to the ascertaining the possibility of the individual members of that administration, or any of them, acceding to an administration to be formed by Lord Wellesley

Wellesley; or to some proposal to be made by them as a government to Lord Wellesley and Mr. Canning?

If Lord Wellesley's commission is considered as at an end, it is essential to Lord Wellesley's honour that the fact should be publicly known. He has entered upon communications which he could not terminate at the point to which they were brought, without distinctly stating his commission to be at an end.

If what is now in contemplation is some new proposal to be made to Lord Wellesley and Mr. Canning, from the former administration revived, then the revival of that administration ought to be made matter of notoriety; and the proposal itself must be distinctly stated, before Lord Wellesley and Mr. Canning can form any judgment upon it.

No. 11.

Lord Melville's Communication to Mr. Canning, inclosed in No. 9.

Glocester Lodge, May 27, 1812.
10 a. m.

Lord Melville called upon Mr. Canning, and informed him, in answer to the questions which Mr. Canning put to Lord Melville yesterday.

1st. That Lord Wellesley's commission is considered by the Prince Regent as at an end.

2d. That the persons now holding offices, hold them only until their successors shall be appointed.

Lord Melville had understood Mr. Canning yesterday to say, that Lord Wellesley was of opinion that his commission was at an

end; but that he (Mr. Canning) doubted it.

This was a mistake. What Mr. Canning stated was, that Lord Wellesley was in doubt as to the Prince Regent's intention; and that he (Mr. Canning) had no means of forming any opinion upon it.

No. 12.

Letter of Lord Grey to Lord Wellesley.

*Portman Square,
May 27, 1812.*

My Lord,—I have the honour of returning the papers which your Lordship was so good as to put into my hands this morning.

I observe a material difference between the terms in which the two principles, proposed as the basis of a new administration, are stated in Mr. Canning's minute, and in that sent to Lord Grenville and me by your lordship. I think it necessary to call your lordship's attention to this circumstance, because if these discussions should proceed further, it may become of the utmost importance.

I am, with the highest regard, my lord, your lordship's very faithful and humble servant

(Signed) GREY.

The Marquis Wellesley.

No. 13.

Letter of Lord Wellesley to Lord Grey.

*Apsley House,
May 28, 1812.*

My Lord,—I should have returned an earlier acknowledgment of the honour of your lordship's letter

letter of yesterday, had I not thought it necessary to see Mr. Canning, before I troubled your lordship with any answer to your observations on our respective minutes.

Having carefully examined those papers, and compared them with our view of the points to which they refer, we have drawn the inclosed paper for your lordship's information, and have authenticated it by our respective signatures.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, my lord, your lordship's faithful humble servant,

(Signed) WELLESLEY.
The Earl Grey.

No. 14.

Paper signed by Lord Wellesley and Mr. Canning.

The variance in point of phrase in the two propositions as stated by Lord Wellesley and Mr. Canning in their minutes of conference arises from this circumstance, that Lord Wellesley and Mr. Canning went to their respective conferences without having thought it necessary previously to reduce into a written form the communications which they were to make, being in full possession of each other's sentiments upon the subject of them.

The two minutes were written by them as containing the substance of their respective communications; that of Mr. Canning in Lord Liverpool's presence; that of Lord Wellesley immediately after his return from Lord Grey.

There does not appear to Lord Wellesley and Mr. Canning to be any substantial variance in the first proposition.

The word "early" in Mr. Canning's minute might be exchanged for the word "immediate," used by Lord Wellesley, without in any degree altering the sense: as, with a motion actually pending in the House of Commons, which (but for the events that have recently taken place) would have come on this very day, the object of which was, to compel the executive government to take the subject of the Catholic question into consideration, it cannot be necessary to say that Mr. Canning has no wish to defer that consideration. On the other hand, consideration by the executive government is the object which it is Lord Wellesley's intention to recommend: nor does he conceive any further parliamentary proceeding to be necessary or practicable this session than such as might be sufficient to insure, either by compulsion upon a hostile administration, or by pledge from a friendly one, the consideration of the question during the recess with a view to its being brought before parliament, by the recommendation of the crown, early in the ensuing session.

A committee to inquire into the state of the laws has been already negatived in both houses this session.

A "conciliatory adjustment" of the claims of the Irish Catholics is the object which Lord Wellesley and Mr. Canning have equally at heart: and it enters equally into both their views, that to be "conciliatory"

"conciliatory" that adjustment must be so framed as to embrace the interests and opinions of the English Catholics,—also to obtain the enlightened and deliberate consent of the Protestants of both countries. They would think any adjustment very imperfect which, instead of extinguishing discontent, only transferred it from the Catholic to the Protestant.

But they concur in entertaining a confident belief, that the great purpose of securing the peace of the empire may be answered, not by giving a triumph to any one party, but by reconciling all.

In the substance of the second proposition, there is no variance as to any practical and prospective purpose, though undoubtedly there is, and it is natural there should be, some as to the past, arising from the difference of Mr. Canning's and Lord Wellesley's respective situations.

When Mr. Canning says, that the Peninsular war is to be carried on "with the best means of the country," he intends the greatest scale of exertion which the means of the country may be found capable of sustaining.

If Lord Wellesley's expression, "a scale of adequate vigour," may be construed to imply the proposition, that the late exertions of this country have not been proportioned to the great object of the war, or have not been duly distributed or apportioned; this proposition Mr. Canning certainly does not intend either to affirm, or to deny; simply because, not having been in the government during the last two years, he has not sufficient information to be

able to pronounce an opinion, whether the exertions of those two years have or have not been below the proper scale, or have been well or ill administered; nor how far they may now admit of being extended or more judiciously applied.

He concurs, however, entirely with Lord Wellesley, in wishing to extend them to the utmost power of the country; and to apply them in the manner best calculated to answer their end.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

GEORGE CANNING.

No. 15.

Letter from Lord Grey to Lord Wellesley.

*Portman Square,
May 29, 1812.*

My Lord,—I had last night the honour of receiving your lordship's letter, inclosing a paper explanatory of the difference which I had remarked between your lordship's minute and Mr. Canning's, together with a copy of the latter.

I beg your lordship to be assured that in the observation to which I had thought it necessary to call your lordship's attention, I could have no object but that of preventing the possibility of any future misunderstanding. We had not entered into any explanation, which, under the circumstances of the moment, would perhaps have been premature, of the details of conduct necessary to give effect to the first of the propositions, offered by your lordship as the basis of a new administration. From the difference of the terms used by Mr. Canning in stating that proposition,

I was

I was apprehensive that it might be his opinion, in concurrence with your lordship's, that no parliamentary proceeding with reference to the claims of the Catholics, should take place during the present session. To such an opinion I could not have assented; and I felt it to be due both to your lordship and Mr. Canning, immediately to draw your attention to a point, on which it was so desirable that there should be a clear understanding between us.

I hope it is unnecessary for me to state, that I can look at the situations of the Catholics (both Irish and English) with no other view than that of the public interest; and that nothing can be further from my disposition, or my intention; in a matter of such pre-eminent importance, than to give to any one party a triumph at the expense of another. But I do not conceive, that the repeal of the disabilities of which the Catholics complain, can give any just cause for discontent to their Protestant fellow-subjects; and I am strongly of opinion, that the efficacy of that measure must in a great degree depend on its being carried into effect with the least possible delay, and with the clearest demonstrations of a conciliatory and confiding spirit. Under this impression I should very reluctantly abandon the hope of passing a bill for such repeal, even during the present session; but if this cannot be done, I hold it to be indispensable, that the most distinct and authentic pledge should be given of the intention, both of the executive government and of parliament, to take this matter up as one of the first measures of the next. To a proceeding of this na-

ture, from the paper signed by your lordship and Mr. Canning, I am led to hope, that you would not be adverse.

As to the second proposition, the difference which I had observed was much less important. It is impossible to reduce a question of this nature to any fixed principle. Whatever we can say with our present means of information, must necessarily be general and inconclusive, the whole subject being left open to future consideration and decision. I can have no hesitation in subscribing to the proposition, that, if it shall be found expedient to continue the exertions we are now making in the Peninsula, they should be conducted in the manner best calculated to answer their end.

I have, I fear, troubled your lordship much more than is necessary under the circumstances of our present situation; and will only add, that if we should be called upon to pursue these considerations in their practical details, it will be my most anxious wish, that no difference of opinion may be found to exist between us, respecting the conduct to be adopted by a government equally solicitous for the internal peace and harmony of the empire, and for the prosecution of military operations in such a mode as may appear most conducive to our ultimate security. Lord Grenville, to whom I have communicated your lordship's letter, and its inclosures, desires me to express his cordial concurrence in this wish.

I have the honour to be, with the highest regard, my lord, your lordship's very faithful humble servant,

(Signed) GREY.
No.

No. 16:

Lord Wellesley's Reply to Lord Grey, May 29th, 1812.

*Apsley House,
May 29, 1812.*

My Lord,—I request your lordship to accept my sincere thanks for your letter of this day's date.

In the actual state of affairs, it might be deemed premature to enter into any more particular discussions, than those already submitted to your lordship on the points to which you have adverted with so much perspicuity, ability, and candour.

But I cannot omit this opportunity of assuring your lordship, that I have derived from the sentiments, so justly expressed in your letter, a firm expectation, that if the advice, which I have humbly offered to the Prince Regent, should be ultimately approved, a happy prospect will open to the country of recovering internal peace, and of prosecuting the war with success, under an administration worthy of the confidence of the Prince, and of the people, and equal to the arduous charge of public affairs, amidst all the difficulties and dangers of the present crisis.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, my lord, your lordship's most faithful and obedient servant,
WELLESLEY.

No. 17.

Minute of a Communication made by Lord Wellesley to Lord Grey, at Lord Grey's House, June 1st, 1812.

Lord Wellesley stated, that he had, on that morning, received full
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authority from the Prince Regent to form an administration under his Royal Highness's commands; and that he was specially authorised to communicate with Lords Grey and Grenville on the subject.

That his Royal Highness entertained no wish to exclude from the proposed administration, any person, or description of persons, who could unite in the principles on which the administration was to be founded.

That the two propositions stated in Lord Wellesley's minute of May 23rd, and subsequently explained in the letters which had passed between Lord Wellesley and Lord Grey, of the dates of the 27th, 28th, and 29th of May, 1812, were intended by his Royal Highness to constitute the foundation of his administration.

That his Royal Highness had signified his pleasure, that Lord Wellesley should conduct the formation of the administration in all its branches, and should be first commissioner of the treasury; and that Lord Moira, Lord Erskine, and Mr. Canning, should be members of the cabinet.

That it was probable, that a cabinet formed on an enlarged basis, must be extended to the number of twelve or thirteen members: that the Prince Regent wished Lords Grey and Grenville, on the part of their friends, to recommend for his Royal Highness's approbation the names of four persons (if the cabinet should consist of twelve), and of five persons (if the cabinet should consist of thirteen), to be appointed by his Royal Highness to fill such stations in his councils as might hereafter be arranged.

2 B

That

That his Royal Highness left the selection of the names to Lords Grey and Grenville without any exception or personal exclusion.

That in completing the new arrangement, the Prince Regent has granted to Lord Wellesley entire liberty to propose for his Royal Highness's approbation, the names of any persons now occupying stations in his Royal Highness's councils, or of any other persons.

That if the proposition made to Lords Grey and Grenville, should be accepted as the outline of an arrangement, all other matters would be discussed with the most anxious solicitude to promote harmony and general accommodation.

WELLESLEY.

No. 18.

Lord Grey to Lord Wellesley, dated 2nd June, on the subject of No. 17.

*Camelford House,
June 2nd, 1812.*

My Lord,—I lost no time in sending for Lord Grenville, and have communicated to him, since his arrival, the proposal made to me yesterday by your lordship.

We have felt the necessity of a further communication with our friends, and this, I fear, will make it impossible for us to send our final answer to the minute which I had the honour of receiving from your lordship yesterday evening, till a late hour to-night, or early to-morrow morning.

To obviate, however, as far as I can, any inconvenience which might arise from this delay, I think it right to state to your lordship, that the feeling which I yesterday expressed to you, as to the nature of the proposal which

you were authorised by the Prince Regent to make to Lord Grenville and me, has been confirmed by subsequent reflection, as well as by the opinion of Lord Grenville, and, indeed, of every person with whom I have hitherto had an opportunity of consulting.

I have the honour to be, with the highest regard, my lord, your lordship's very faithful, humble servant,
GREY.

No. 19.

Letters from Lords Grey and Grenville to Lord Wellesley.

*Camelford House,
June 3, 1812.*

My Lord,—We have considered with the most serious attention the minute which we have had the honour to receive from your lordship; and we have communicated it to such of our friends as we have had the opportunity of consulting.

On the occasion of a proposal made to us under the authority of his royal highness the Prince Regent, we wish to renew, in the most solemn manner, the declaration of our unfeigned desire to have facilitated, as far as was in our power, the means of giving effect to the late vote of the House of Commons, and of averting the imminent and unparalleled dangers of the country. No sense of the public distress and difficulty—no personal feelings of whatever description, would have prevented us under such circumstances, from accepting, with dutiful submission, any situations in which we could have hoped to serve his royal highness usefully and honourably: but it appears to us, on the most dispassionate reflection, that the proposal

proposal stated by your lordship cannot justify any such expectation.

We are invited, not to discuss with your lordship, or with any other public men, according to the usual practice in such cases, the various and important considerations, both of measures and of arrangements, which belong to the formation of a new government, in all its branches; but to recommend to his Royal Highness a number limited by previous stipulation, of persons willing to be included in a cabinet, of which the outlines are already definitely arranged.

To this proposal we could not accede without the sacrifice of the very object which the House of Commons has recommended—the formation of a strong and efficient administration.

We enter not into the examination of the relative proportions, or of the particular arrangements, which it has been judged necessary thus previously to establish. It is to the principle of disunion and jealousy that we object—to the supposed balance of contending interests, in a cabinet so measured out by preliminary stipulation. The times imperiously require an administration united in principle, and strong in mutual reliance: possessing also the confidence of the crown, and assured of its support in those healing measures which the public safety requires; and which are necessary to secure to the government, the opinion and affections of the people.

No such hope is presented to us by this project, which appears to us equally new in practice, and objectionable in principle. It tends, as we think, to establish, within

the cabinet itself, a system of counteraction inconsistent with the prosecution of any uniform and beneficial course of policy.

We must, therefore, request permission to decline all participation in a government constituted upon such principles: satisfied, as we are, that the certain loss of character which must arise from it to ourselves, could be productive only of disunion and weakness in the administration of the public interests.

We have the honour to be, with great respect, &c.

(Signed)

GREY.

(Signed)

GRENVILLE.

No. 20.

Explanatory Letter from Lord Moira to Lord Grey, June 3rd, on the subject of Lord Wellesley's Minute, No. 17.

June 3, 1812.

My dear Lord,—The answer which you and Lord Grenville have returned to the proposal made by Lord Wellesley seems to throw an oblique imputation upon me; therefore I entreat your reconsideration of your statement as far as it may convey that impeachment of a procedure in which I was involved. You represent the proposition for an arrangement submitted to you as one calculated to found a cabinet upon a principle of counteraction. When the most material of the public objects which were to be the immediate ground of that cabinet's exertion had been previously understood between the parties, I own it is difficult for me to comprehend what principle of counteraction could be introduced. If there be any ambiguity

which does not strike me, in Lord Wellesley's last paper, surely the construction ought to be sought in the antecedent communication; and I think the basis on which that communication had announced the intended cabinet to stand was perfectly clear. With regard to the indication of certain individuals, I can assert that it was a measure adopted through the highest spirit of fairness to you and your friends.

Mr. Canning's name was mentioned, because Lord Wellesley would have declined office without him; and it was a frankness to apprise you of it: and Lord Erskine's and mine were stated with a view of showing, that Lord Wellesley, so far from having any jealousy to maintain a preponderance in the cabinet, actually left a majority to those who had been accustomed to concur upon most public questions; and he specified Lord Erskine and myself, that you might see the number submitted for your exclusive nomination was not narrowed by the necessity of advenience to us. The choice of an additional member of the cabinet left to you must prove how undistinguishable we consider our interests and your's, when this was referred to your consideration as a mere matter of convenience, the embarrassment of a numerous cabinet being well known. The reference to members of the late cabinet, or other persons, was always to be coupled with the established point, that they were such as could concur in the principles laid down as the foundation for the projected ministry: and the statement was principally dictated by the wish to show, that no system of exclusion could interfere

with the arrangements which the public service might demand. On the selection of those persons, I aver the opinions of you, Lord Grenville, and the others whom you might bring forward as members of the cabinet, were to operate as fully as our own, and this was to be the case also with regard to subordinate offices. The expression that this was left to be proposed by Lord Wellesley, was intended to prove, that his Royal Highness did not, even in the most indirect manner, suggest any one of those individuals.

It is really impossible that the spirit of fairness can have been carried further than has been the intention in this negociation. I therefore lament most deeply that an arrangement so important for the interests of the country should go off upon points which I cannot but think wide of the substance of the case.

(Signed)

MOIRA.

No. 21.

Lord Wellesley to Lord Moira, approving Lord Moira's Letter, (No. 20.) to Lord Grey, of the 3rd of June.

*Apsley House,
June 3rd, 1812.*

My dear Lord,—I return the copy of your lordship's letter to Lord Grey. This communication to Lord Grey is most useful, and the substance of it is admirably judicious, clear, and correct.

My declaration, this day, in the House of Lords, was indispensably necessary to my public and private honour; both of which would have been involved, if I had not, in full parliament, announced, that

I had

I had resigned the commission, with which his royal highness had charged me.

Believe me, &c. WELLESLEY.

No. 22.

Lord Grey's Reply to Lord Moira's Letter (No. 20) of the 3rd of June.

*Portman-square,
4th June, 1812.*

My dear Lord,—Being obliged to go immediately from the house of lords to a dinner party, and afterwards to a meeting at Lord Grenville's which occupied me till a late hour, it was not in my power to answer your letter last night.

You must be too well aware of my personal feelings towards you, of my esteem for your character, and of my confidence in your honour, to entertain any opinion respecting your conduct inconsistent with those sentiments. Nothing, therefore, could be more remote from my intention—and I am desired by Lord Grenville, to whom I have shewn your letter, to give you the same assurance on his part—than to cast any imputation whatever on you, as to the part you have borne in the proceedings which have lately taken place for the formation of a new administration. We know with how sincere an anxiety for the honour of the prince, and for the public interest, you have laboured to effect that object.

Whatsoever objections we may feel, therefore, to the proposal which has been made to us, we beg they may be understood as having no reference whatever to any part of your conduct. That proposal was made to us in a formal and authorised communication from Lord Wellesley, both

personally to me, and afterwards in a written minute. It appeared to us to be founded on a principle to which we could not assent, consistently with our honour, and with a due sense of public duty. The grounds of this opinion have been distinctly stated in our joint letter to Lord Wellesley: nor can they be altered by a private explanation: which, though it might lessen some obvious objections to a part of the detail, still leaves the general character of the proceeding unchanged. Nothing could be more painful to me than to enter into any thing like a controversial discussion with you; in which I could only repeat more at large the same feelings and opinions which, in concurrence with Lord Grenville, I have already expressed in our formal answer. I beg only to assure you, before I conclude, that I have felt very sensibly, and shall always have a pleasure in acknowledging, your personal kindness to me in the course of this transaction. I am, with every sentiment of true respect and attention, my dear lord, your's most faithfully,
GREY.

No. 23.

Lord Wellesley's Reply to the Letter (No. 19.) from Lords Grey and Grenville, of the 3rd of June.

*Apsley-house,
June 3rd, 1812.*

My Lords,—I received the letter, by which I was honoured from your lordships this morning, with the most sincere regret; and I have discharged the painful duty of submitting it to his royal highness the Prince Regent. It would have afforded me some consolation, if

if the continuance of the authority confided to me by his royal highness had enabled me, under his royal highness's commands, to offer to your lordships a full and candid explanation of those points in my minute of the 1st of June, which your lordships appear to me to have entirely misapprehended. But as his royal highness has been pleased to intimate to me his pleasure, that the formation of a new administration should be intrusted to other hands, I have requested permission to decline all further concern in this transaction.

I remain, however, extremely anxious to submit to your lordships some explanatory observations respecting the communications which I have had the honour to make to you; and I trust that your lordships will indulge me with that advantage, although I can no longer address you under the sanction of the Prince Regent's authority.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, my lords, your most faithful, and obedient servant,

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

No. 24.

Lord Wellesley to Lord Grey on the same Subject, dated 4th June.

*Apsley-house,
June 4th, 1812.*

My Lord,—When I applied yesterday to your lordship and Lord Grenville, for permission to submit to you some explanatory observations respecting the communications which I have had the honour to make to you by the authority of the Prince Regent, I was not aware that Lord Moira had addressed a letter to your lordship of

the same nature as that which I was desirous of conveying to you.

The form of such a letter, either from Lord Moira or me, must have been private, as neither of us possessed any authority from the Prince Regent, to open any further communication with your lordship, or with Lord Grenville; a circumstance which I deeply lament, under a sanguine hope, that additional explanations, sanctioned by authority, might have removed the existing obstacles to an amicable arrangement.

Lord Moira has sent me a copy of his letter (No. 20.) to your lordship of yesterday's date; and as it contains an accurate, clear, and candid statement of the real objects of the proposal which I conveyed to you, it appears to me to have furnished you with as full an explanation as can be given in an unauthorised paper. Under these circumstances, it might be deemed superfluous trouble to your lordship and to Lord Grenville, to solicit your attention to a private letter from me; although I should be most happy if any opportunity were afforded, of renewing a conciliatory intercourse, under the commands of the Prince Regent, with a view to attain the object of our recent communications.—I have the honour to be, with great respect, my lord, your lordship's most faithful and humble servant,
WELLESLEY.

No. 25.

Lord Grey's Reply to Lord Wellesley's Letter, No. 24.

*Portman-Square,
June 4th, 1812.*

My Lord,—I have had the honour

nour of receiving your lordship's letter of this day's date.

As Lord Moira has communicated to your lordship the copy of his letter to me, I take it for granted that you have in the same manner been put in possession of my answer, which contains all that I can say with respect to the explanation of the proposal made by your lordship to Lord Grenville and myself.

I was perfectly aware, that Lord Moira's letter could in no degree be considered as an authorised communication, but that it was simply a private explanation offered for the purpose of removing the objections which had been stated by Lord Grenville and me to the proposal contained in the written minute transmitted to us by your lordship, under the authority of the Prince Regent. But though it could not vary the effect of that minute in my opinion, I was happy to receive it as an expression of personal regard, and of that desire which we readily acknowledge both in your lordship and Lord Moira, and which is reciprocal on the part of Lord Grenville and myself, that no difference of opinion on the matter in question should produce on either side any personal impression, which might obstruct the renewal of a conciliatory intercourse, whenever a more favourable opportunity shall be afforded for it.

I have the honour to be, with the highest regard, my lord, your lordship's very faithful humble servant,

(Signed) GREY.

No. 26.

Lord Moira to Lords Grey and

Grenville proposing an interview with them, 5th June.

Lord Moira presents his best compliments to Earl Grey and Lord Grenville. Since Lord Wellesley has declared his commission from the Prince Regent to be at an end, Lord Moira (as being honoured with his Royal Highness's confidence) ventures to indulge the anxiety he feels, that an arrangement of the utmost importance for the interests of the country should not go off on any misunderstanding.

He therefore entreats Lord Grey and Lord Grenville to advert to the explanatory letter [No. 20.] of the 3rd June, written by him to the former: and if the dispositions therein expressed shall appear to them likely to lead, upon conference, to any advantageous result towards co-operation in the Prince's service, he will be happy to have an interview with them.

Should the issue of that conversation prove such as he would hope, his object would be to solicit the Prince Regent's permission to address them formally. He adopts this mode, to preclude all difficulties in the outset. Let him be permitted to remark, that the very urgent pressure of public affairs renders the most speedy determination infinitely desirable.

N. B. This was written in the presence of the Duke of Bedford, in consequence of conversation with his Grace; and was by him carried to Lord Grey.

No. 27.

Note from Lords Grey and Grenville, declining unauthorized discussions, 5th June.

House

House of Lords, June 5, 1812.

We cannot but feel highly gratified by the kindness of the motive on which Lord Moira acts. Personal communication with him will always be acceptable and honourable to us: but we hope he will be sensible that no advantage is likely to result from pursuing this subject by unauthorised discussions, and in a course different from the usual practice.

Motives of obvious delicacy must prevent our taking any step towards determining the Prince Regent to authorise Lord Moira to address us personally. We shall always receive with dutiful submission his Royal Highness's commands, in whatever manner, and through whatever channel, he may be pleased to signify them, and we trust we shall never be found wanting in zeal for his Royal Highness's service, and for the public interest: but we cannot venture to suggest to his Royal Highness, through any other person, our opinions on points in which his Royal Highness is not pleased to require our advice.

(Signed) GREY.

GRENVILLE.

No. 28.

Lord Moira to Lords Grey and Grenville, informing them, that he has the Prince Regent's authority to address them, and requesting to know when and where he can see them.

Lord Moira presents his best compliments to Lord Grey and Lord Grenville.

Discouraged, as he unavoidably must be, he yet cannot reconcile it to himself to leave any effort un-

tried: and he adopts their principle for an interview, though he doubts if the desired conclusion is likely to be so well advanced by it, as would have been the case in the mode suggested by him.

He has now the Prince Regent's instructions to take steps towards the formation of a ministry; and is authorised specially to address himself to Lords Grey and Grenville. It is, therefore, his request to know, when and where he can wait upon them. He would wish to bring Lord Erskine with him.

June 6, 1812. Eleven forenoon.

No. 29.

Minute of a conversation between Lord Moira and Lords Grey and Grenville, at which Lord Erskine was present.

*St. James's Place,
June 6, 1812.*

Lord Moira stated to Lord Grey and Lord Grenville, that he was authorised by the Prince Regent, to consult with them on the formation of a new government. And satisfactory explanations having taken place between them, respecting such measures as appeared to be of the greatest urgency at the present moment, more especially with reference to the situation of his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects, and the differences now unhappily subsisting with America; and that Lord Moira had received this commission without any restriction or limitation whatever being laid by the Prince, on their considering any points which they judged useful for his service; they expressed their satisfaction with the fairness of this proposal, and their readiness to enter into such discussions

sions as must precede the details of any new arrangement. As a preliminary question, which appeared to them of great importance, they thought it necessary immediately to bring forward to prevent the inconvenience and embarrassment of the further delay which might be produced, if this negotiation should break off in a more advanced state, they asked, "Whether this full liberty extended to the consideration of new appointments to those great offices of the household, which have been usually included in the political arrangements made on a change of administration; intimating their opinion, that it would be necessary to act on the same principle on the present occasion."

Lord Moira answered, "That the Prince had laid no restriction upon him in that respect, and had never pointed, in the most distant manner, at the protection of those officers from removal; that it would be impossible for him (Lord Moira), however, to concur in making the exercise of this power positive and indispensable, in the formation of the administration, because he should deem it on public grounds peculiarly objectionable."

To this Lord Grey and Lord Grenville replied, they also acted on public grounds alone, and with no other feeling whatever than that which arose from the necessity of giving to a new government that character of efficiency and stability, and those marks of the constitutional support of the crown, which were required to enable it to act usefully for the public service; and that on these grounds it appeared to them indispensable, that

the connection of the great offices of the court, with the political administration, should be clearly established in its first arrangements.

A decided difference of opinion as to this point having been thus expressed on both sides, the conversation ended here, with mutual declarations of regret.

Nothing was said on the subject of official arrangements, nor any persons proposed on either side to fill any particular situations.

B. and C. Two Letters (which passed between Lords Moira, and Grey) subjoined for the purpose of throwing light on the ground of part of these Transactions.

(Copy) B.

May 31st, 1812.

My dear Lord,—A just anxiety not to leave any thing subject to misunderstanding, must excuse me if I am troublesome to you. Since I quitted you, the necessity of being precise in terms has occurred to me: and, although I think I cannot have mistaken you, I wish to know if I am accurate in what I apprehend you to have said. I understood the position, stated by you as having been what you advanced in the house of lords, to be this, "That pledges had been given to the Catholics, a departure from which rendered their present disappointment more galling; and that you said this in the hearing of persons who could contradict you if you were inaccurate." Just say whether I have taken your expression correctly or not. Believe me, &c. &c.

MOIRA.
Holland

C.

*Holland House,
May 31st, 1812.*

My dear Lord,—I cannot sufficiently thank you for your kind anxiety to procure an accurate statement of the words spoken by me in the House of Lords. It is difficult to remember precise expressions so long after they were spoken; but I am sure I cannot be far wrong in stating the substance of what I said, as follows :

I was speaking on the subject of the Irish Catholics, and particularly on the charge of intemperate conduct which had been made against them. I stated, that great allowances were to be made for this, considering their repeated disappointments; and I cited, as instances of these, the recal of Lord Fitzwilliam, and the Union. I then said; that the most distinct and authentic pledges had been given to them, of the Prince's wish to relieve them from the disabilities of which they complained; that I spoke in the hearing of persons who would contradict me if what I said was unfounded, and who would, I was sure, support its truth if questioned; that now, when the fulfilment of these pledges was confidently expected, to see an administration continued in power, which stood on the express principle of resisting their claims, was, perhaps, the bitterest disappointment they had yet experienced; and that it was not surprising, if, under such circumstances, they felt, and acted, in a way that all well wishers to the peace of the empire must regret.

This I give as the substance, and

by no means as a correct repetition of the particular expressions used by me; and this statement I can neither retract, nor endeavour to explain away. If, in consequence of it, the Prince feels a strong personal objection to me, I can only repeat what I have already said to you, that I am perfectly ready to stand out of the way; that my friends shall have my full concurrence and approbation in taking office without me, and my most cordial support in the government of the country, if their measures are directed, as I am sure they must always be, by the principles on which we have acted together.

I write this from Lord Holland's in a great hurry, and in the middle of dinner; but I was unwilling to defer, even for a minute, to answer an inquiry, which I feel to be prompted by so friendly a solicitude for me. I have not the means of taking a copy of this letter. I shall therefore be obliged to you to let me have one; and I am sure, if, upon recollection, I shall think it necessary to add any thing to what I have now said, you will allow me an opportunity of doing so. I am, with the sincerest regard, my dear lord, your's very faithfully,

GREY.

*Address to the Prince Regent, of the
Religious Society of Friends, with
his Royal Highness's Answer.*

To George Augustus, Prince Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

May it please the Prince. Seeing that in consequence of the lament-
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ed affliction of our beloved Sovereign thy father, thou art called to the high office of administering the regal government of this country, we, his dutiful subjects, the religious Society of Friends, are desirous of representing to thee a subject in which we believe the welfare of our country is deeply concerned.

It is now many years since war has been spreading its desolation over great part of the civilized world; and as we believe it to be an evil, from which the spirit of the Gospel of Christ would wholly deliver the nations of the earth, we humbly petition thee to use the Royal Prerogative, now placed in thy hands, to take such early measures for the putting a period to this dreadful state of devastation, as we trust the wisdom of thy councils, as they seek for Divine direction, will be enabled to discover.

Impressed with a grateful sense of the religious privileges we enjoy under the present Government, we submit this highly important cause of suffering humanity, which is peculiarly near to our hearts, to thy most serious consideration; that thus thou may'st become an honoured instrument in the hand of the Almighty, in promoting his gracious designs respecting the inhabitants of the earth.

Signed in, by order, and on behalf of the yearly Meeting of the said People, held in London, this 29th day of the fifth month, 1812, by

JOHN WILKINSON.

Clerk to the Meeting this year.

To which Address his Royal Highness was pleased to return

the following most gracious answer:

I am deeply sensible of the calamities which necessarily attend a state of war.

It would, therefore, be most grateful to my feelings, to observe such a change in the views and conduct of the enemy as would admit of a cessation of hostilities, consistently with a just regard to the important interests which have been committed to my charge, and which it is my indispensable duty to maintain.

I reflect with great satisfaction on the religious privileges secured to you by the wisdom and benevolence of the laws, and you may rest assured of my constant protection.

[Presented by William Allen, London; Morris Birkbeck, Guildford; Joseph Smith, London; George Stacey, Tottenham; Edward Jonson, Tottenham; Rich. Philips, London; Anthony Horne, Clapham-Common; Joseph Foster, Bromley; Luke Howard, Plaistow; John Wilkison, High Wycomb.]

Revocation of the Orders in Council.

At the Court at Carlton-House, the 23rd of June, 1812; present his Royal Highness the Prince Regent in Council.

Whereas his Royal Highness the Prince Regent was pleased to declare, in the name, and on the behalf of his Majesty, on the 21st day of April, 1812, "That if at any time hereafter, the Berlin and Milan Decrees shall, by some authentic act of the French Government, publicly promulgated, be absolutely

absolutely and unconditionally repealed, then and from thenceforth the Order in Council of the 7th of January, 1807, and the Order in Council of the 26th of April, 1809, shall, without any further order be, and the same are hereby declared from thenceforth to be, wholly and absolutely revoked."

And whereas the *Chargé des Affaires* of the United States of America, resident at this Court, did, on the 20th day of May last, transmit to Lord Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, a copy of a certain instrument, then for the first time communicated to this Court, purporting to be a Decree passed by the Government of France, on the 28th day of April, 1811, by which the *Decrées* of Berlin and Milan are declared to be definitively no longer in force, in regard to American vessels.

And whereas his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, although he cannot consider the tenor of the said instrument as satisfying the conditions set forth in the said Order of the 21st of April last, upon which the said Orders were to cease and determine; is nevertheless disposed on his part to take such measures as may tend to re-establish the intercourse between Neutral and Belligerent Nations, upon its accustomed principles; his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, is therefore pleased, by and with the advice of his Majesty's Privy Council, to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared, that the Order in Council bearing date the 7th day of January, 1807, and the Order in Council bearing date the

26th day of April, 1809, be revoked, so far as may regard American vessels, and their cargoes, being American property, from the 1st day of August next.

But whereas by certain Acts of the Government of the United States of America, all British armed vessels are excluded from the harbours and waters of the said United States, the armed vessels of France being permitted to enter therein; and the commercial intercourse between Great Britain and the said United States is interdicted, the commercial intercourse between France and the said United States having been restored; his Royal Highness the Prince Regent is pleased hereby further to declare, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, that if the Government of the said United States shall not, as soon as may be, after this Order shall have been duly notified by his Majesty's Minister in America to the said Government, revoke, or cause to be revoked, the said Acts, this present Order shall in that case, after due notice signified by his Majesty's Minister in America to the said Government, be thenceforth null and of no effect.

It is further ordered and declared, that all American vessels, and their cargoes, being American property, that shall have been captured subsequently to the 20th day of May last, for a breach of the aforesaid Orders in Council alone, and which shall not have been actually condemned before the date of this Order; and that all ships and cargoes as aforesaid, that shall henceforth be captured under the said Orders, prior to the 1st day of August next, shall not be proceeded against to condemnation

condemnation till further orders, but shall, in the event of this order not becoming null and of no effect, in the case aforesaid, be forthwith liberated and restored, subject to such reasonable expenses on the part of the captors, as shall have been justly incurred.

Provided, that nothing in this Order contained, respecting the Revocation of the Orders herein-mentioned, shall be taken to revive wholly or in part the Orders in Council of the 11th of November, 1807, or any other Order not herein mentioned, or to deprive parties of any legal remedy to which they may be entitled under the Order in Council of the 21st of April, 1812.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent is hereby pleased further to declare, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, that nothing in this present Order contained, shall be understood to preclude his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, if circumstances shall so require, from restoring, after reasonable notice, the orders of the 7th of January, 1807; and 26th of April, 1809, or any part thereof, to their full effect, or from taking such other measures of retaliation against the enemy, as may appear to his Royal Highness to be just and necessary.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury; his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, and the Judges of the Courts of Vice-Admiralty, are to take the necessary measures herein, as to them may respectively appertain.

JAMES BULLER.

Treaty of Peace between Great Britain and Russia.

In the name of the Most Holy and Indivisible Trinity !

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally animated with the desire of re-establishing the ancient relations of amity and good understanding between the two Kingdoms respectively, have nominated to this effect, as their Ministers Plenipotentiary; namely, his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, the Sieur Peter Suchtelen, Chief of the Department of Engineers, General and member of the Council of State, &c. and the Sieur Paul Baron de Nicolay, Gentleman of the Bedchamber, &c. and his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name of his Majesty, King of the United Kingdom of England and Ireland, the Sieur Edward Thornton, Esq. Plenipotentiary from his Britannic Majesty to the King of Sweden.

The said Plenipotentiaries after exchanging their respective full powers, in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles :

I. There shall be between his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, their heirs and successors, and between their kingdoms and subjects respectively, a firm, true, and inviolable peace, and a sincere and perfect union and amity; so that, from this moment, all subjects of disagreement that may have subsisted between them shall cease.

II. The

II. The relations of amity and commerce between the two countries shall be re-established on each side, on the footing of the most favoured nations.

III. If, in resentment of the present re-establishment of peace and good understanding between the two countries, any power whatsoever shall make war upon his Imperial Majesty or his Britannic Majesty, the two contracting Sovereigns agree to act in support of each other for the maintenance and security of their respective kingdoms.

IV. The two high contracting parties reserve to themselves to establish a proper understanding and adjustment, as soon as possible, with respect to all matters which may concern their eventual interests, political as well as commercial.

V. The present treaty shall be ratified by the two contracting parties, and the ratification shall be exchanged in six weeks, or sooner, if possible :

And for the due performance of the same, we sign in virtue of our full powers, and have signed the present treaty of peace, and have thereto affixed our seals.

Done at Orebro, the 6th (18) July, 1812.

SUCHTELEN (L. S.)

PAUL BARON DE NICOLAY.

EDWARD THORNTON (L. S.)

After sufficiently examining the articles of the present treaty of peace, we have approved of the same, which we now confirm, and by these presents most solemnly ratify, in all its tenor ; promising on our Imperial part, for us and for our successors, to observe and ex-

ecute, inviolably, every thing that has been mentioned and repeated in the said treaty of peace. In witness whereof we have signed with our hand this Imperial ratification, and have thereto affixed the seal of our empire.

Done at Kamenroi Ostrow, the 1st of August, 1812, and the twelfth year of our reign.

(Signed) ALEXANDER.

(Countersigned)

COUNT ROMANZOW.

Treaty of Peace between his Majesty the King of Sweden, and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

In the name of the most Holy and Indivisible Trinity !

His Majesty the King of Sweden, and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally animated with the desire of re-establishing the ancient relations of friendship and good intercourse between the two Crowns, and their respective States, have appointed to that effect, namely, his Majesty the King of Sweden, the Sieur Laurent, Baron D'Engerstrom, &c. and the Sieur Gustavus, Baron de Wetterstedt, &c. and the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Edward Thornton, Esq. which Plenipotentiaries, after exchanging their full powers, drawn up in full and due form, have agreed upon the following articles :

Art.

Art. I. There shall be between their Majesties the King of Sweden, and the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, their heirs and successors, and between their subjects, kingdoms, and states respectively, a firm, true, and inviolable Peace, and a sincere and perfect union and friendship; so that from this moment, every subject of misunderstanding that may have subsisted between them shall be regarded as entirely ceased and destroyed.

II. The relations of friendship and commerce between the two countries shall be re-established on the footing whereon they stood on the first day of January, 1791; and all treaties and conventions subsisting between the two States at that epoch shall be regarded as renewed and confirmed, and are, accordingly, by the present treaty, renewed and confirmed.

III. If, in resentment of the present pacification, and the re-establishment of the good intercourse between the two countries, any power whatsoever make war upon Sweden, his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland engages to take measures, in concert with his Majesty the King of Sweden, for the security and independence of his states.

IV. The present treaty shall be ratified by the two contracting parties, and the ratifications exchanged within six weeks, or sooner, if possible.

In faith whereof, we, the undersigned, in virtue of our full powers, have signed the present treaty, and thereto affixed our seals.

Done at Orebro, on the 18th of July, 1812.

(Signed)

BARON D'ENGERSTROM.
BARON DE WETTERSTEDT,
EDWARD THORNTON.

[Here follow the ratifications, signed by the Prince Regent on the 4th of August, and by his Swedish Majesty on the 17th of August.]

*Prince Regent's Speech on Pro-
roguing Parliament, delivered
by Commission.*

“ My Lords and Gentlemen.—In terminating the present session of parliament, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent has commanded us to express to you the deep concern and sorrow which he feels at the continuance of his Majesty's lamented indisposition.

“ His Royal Highness regrets the interruptions which have occurred in the progress of public business, during this long and laborious session, in consequence of an event which his Royal Highness must ever deplore. The zeal and unwearied assiduity with which you have persevered in the discharge of the arduous duties imposed upon you by the situation of the country, and the state of public affairs, demands his Royal Highness's warmest acknowledgments.

“ The assistance which you have enabled his Royal Highness to continue to the brave and loyal nations of the Peninsula is calculated to produce the most beneficial effects.

“ His Royal Highness most warmly participates in those sentiments

ments of approbation, which you have bestowed on the consummate skill and intrepidity displayed in the operations which led to the capture of the important fortresses of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, during the present campaign; and his Royal Highness confidently trusts, that the tried valour of the allied forces, under the distinguished command of General the Earl of Wellington, combined with the unabated spirit and steady perseverance of the Spanish and Portuguese nations, will finally bring the contest in that quarter to an issue, by which the independence of the Peninsula will be effectually secured.

“The renewal of the war in the north of Europe furnishes an additional proof of the little security which can be derived from any submission to the usurpations and tyranny of the French government. His Royal Highness is persuaded, that you will be sensible of the great importance of the struggle in which the Emperor of Russia has been compelled to engage, and that you will approve of his Royal Highness affording to those powers who may be united in this contest, every degree of co-operation and assistance, consistent with his other engagements, and with the interests of his Majesty’s dominions.

“His Royal Highness has commanded us to assure you, that he views with most sincere regret, the hostile measures, which have been recently adopted by the government of the United States of America towards this country. His Royal Highness is nevertheless willing to hope, that the accustomed relations of peace and amity be-

tween the two countries may yet be restored: but if his expectations in this respect should be disappointed, by the conduct of the government of the United States, or by their perseverance in any unwarrantable pretensions, he will most fully rely on the support of every class of his Majesty’s subjects, in a contest in which the honour of his Majesty’s crown, and the best interests of his dominions, must be involved.

“Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—We have it in command from his Royal Highness, to thank you for the liberal provision which you have made for the services of the present year. His Royal Highness deeply regrets the burthens which you have found it necessary to impose upon his Majesty’s people; but he applauds the wisdom which has induced you so largely to provide for the exigencies of the public service, as affording the best prospect of bringing the contest in which the country is engaged to a successful and honourable conclusion.

“My Lords and Gentlemen,—His Royal Highness has observed, with the utmost concern, the spirit of insubordination and outrage which has appeared in some parts of the country, and which has been manifested by acts, not only destructive of the property and personal safety of many of his Majesty’s loyal subjects in those districts, but disgraceful to the British character. His Royal Highness feels it incumbent upon him to acknowledge your diligence in the investigation of the causes which have

have led to these outrages; and he has commanded us to thank you for the wise and salutary measures which you have adopted on this occasion. It will be a principal object of his Royal Highness's attention, to make an effectual and prudent use of the powers vested in him for the protection of his Majesty's people, and he confidently trusts, that on your return into your respective counties, he may rely on your exertions for the preservation of the public peace, and for bringing the disturbers of it to justice. His Royal Highness most earnestly recommends to you, the importance of inculcating, by every means, in your power, a spirit of obedience to those laws, and of attachment to that Constitution, which provide equally for the happiness and welfare of all classes of his Majesty's subjects, and on which have hitherto depended the glory and prosperity of this kingdom."

Then a commission for proroguing the parliament was read.

After which, the Lord Chancellor said,

"My Lords and Gentlemen,—By virtue of the commission under the great seal, to us and other lords directed, and now read, we do, in obedience to the commands of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on behalf of his Majesty, prorogue this parliament to Friday the 2nd day of October next, to be then here holden; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Friday, the 2nd day of October next."

Report of the Secret Committee of the House of Lords on the Disturbed State of certain Counties.

VOL. LIV.

Your committee, in pursuing the inquiry referred to their consideration, have endeavoured to ascertain the origin of the disturbances which have arisen in the different parts of the country, with respect to which they have obtained information, the manner in which those disturbances have been carried on, the objects to which they have been apparently directed, the means used to suppress them, the effects of those means, and the state of those parts of the country within which the disturbances have prevailed.

The disposition to combined and disciplined riot and disturbance, which has attracted the attention of parliament, and excited apprehension of the most dangerous consequences, seems to have been first manifested in the neighbourhood of the town of Nottingham, in November last, by the destruction of a great number of newly invented stocking-frames, by small parties of men, principally stocking weavers, who assembled in various places round Nottingham.

By degrees the rioters became more numerous and more formidable, many were armed and divided into different parties, disturbed the whole country between Nottingham and Mansfield, destroying frames almost without resistance. This spirit of discontent (amongst other causes to which it has been attributed) was supposed to have been excited or called into action by the use of a new machine, which enabled the manufacturers to employ women, in work in which men had been before employed, and by the refusal of the manufacturers to pay the wages at the rate which the weavers demanded

manded: and their discontent was probably heightened by the increased price of provisions, particularly of corn. The men engaged in these disturbances were at first principally those thrown out of employ by the use of the new machinery, or by their refusal to work at the rates offered by the manufacturers, and they particularly sought the destruction of frames owned or worked by those who were willing to work at the lower rates. In consequence of the resistance opposed to the outrages of the rioters, in the course of which one of them was killed, they became still more exasperated and more violent, till the magistrates thought it necessary to require the assistance of a considerable armed force, which was promptly assembled, consisting at first principally of local militia and volunteer yeomanry, to whom were added above 400 special constables; the rioters were then dispersed, and it was hoped that the disturbances had been by these means suppressed.

Before the end of the month of November, however, the outrages were renewed, they became more serious, were more systematically conducted; and at length the rioters began in several villages, where they destroyed the frames, to levy, at the same time, contributions for their subsistence, which rapidly increased their numbers, and early in December the outrages were in some degree extended into Derbyshire and Leicestershire, where many frames were broken.

In the mean time, a considerable force both of infantry and cavalry had been sent to Nottingham, and

the commanding officer of the district was ordered to repair thither; and in January, two of the most experienced police magistrates were dispatched to Nottingham, for the purpose of assisting the local authorities in their endeavours to restore tranquillity in the disturbed districts.

The systematic combination, however, with which the outrages were conducted, the terror which they inspired, and the disposition of many of the lower orders to favour rather than oppose them, made it very difficult to discover the offenders, to apprehend them, if discovered, or to obtain evidence to convict those who were apprehended, of the crimes with which they were charged. Some, however, were afterwards proceeded against at the spring assizes at Nottingham, and seven persons were convicted of different offences, and sentenced to transportation.

In the mean time acts were passed for establishing a police in the disturbed districts, upon the ancient system of watch and ward, and for applying to the destruction of stocking frames the punishment before applied by law to the destruction of other machinery.

The discontent which had thus first appeared about Nottingham, and had in some degree extended into Derbyshire and Leicestershire, had before this period been communicated to other parts of the country. Subscriptions for the persons taken into custody in Nottinghamshire were solicited in the month of February at Stockport, in Cheshire, where anonymous letters were at the same time circulated,

culated, threatening to destroy the machinery used in the manufactures of that place, and in that and the following months attempts were made to set on fire two different manufactories. The spirit of disorder then rapidly spread through the neighbourhood, inflammatory placards, inviting the people to a general rising, were dispersed, illegal oaths were administered, riots were produced in various places, houses were plundered by persons in disguise, and a report was industriously circulated, that a general rising would take place on the 1st of May, or early in that month.

The spirit of riot and disturbance was extended to many other places, and particularly to Ashton-under-Line, Eccles, and Middleton; at the latter place the manufactory of Mr. Burton was attacked on the 20th of April, and although the rioters were then repulsed, and five of their number were killed by the military force assembled to protect the works, a second attack was made on the 22nd of April, and Mr. Burton's dwelling house was burnt before military assistance could be brought to his support; when troops arrived to protect the works, they were fired upon by the rioters, and before the rioters could be dispersed, several of them were killed and wounded; according to the accounts received, at least three were killed, and about twenty wounded.

On the 14th of April riots again prevailed at Stockport; the house of Mr. Goodwin was set on fire, and his steam-looms were destroyed. In the following night a meeting of rioters, on a heath

about two miles from the town, for the purpose, as supposed, of being trained for military exercise, was surprised and dispersed; contributions were also levied in the neighbourhood, at the houses of gentlemen and farmers.

About the same time riots also took place at Manchester, and in the neighbourhood; of which the general pretence was the high price of provisions. On the 26th and 27th of April the people of Manchester were alarmed by the appearance of some thousands of strangers in their town, the greater part of whom however disappeared on the 28th; part of the local militia had been then called out, and a large military force had arrived, which, it was supposed, had over-awed those who were disposed to disturbance. An apprehension, however, prevailed, of a more general rising in May, and in the neighbourhood of the town many houses were plundered. Nocturnal meetings for the purpose of military exercise were frequent; arms were seized in various places by the disaffected; the house of a farmer near Manchester was plundered, and a labourer coming to his assistance was shot.

The manner in which the disaffected have carried on their proceedings, is represented as demonstrating an extraordinary degree of concert, secrecy, and organization. Their signals were well contrived and well established, and any attempt to detect and lay hold of the offenders was generally defeated.

The same spirit of riot and disturbance appeared at Bolton-in-the-Moors. So early as the 6th of April, intelligence was given, that

at a meeting of delegates from several places it had been resolved, that the manufactory at West Houghton, in that neighbourhood, should be destroyed, but that at a subsequent meeting it had been determined, that the destruction of this manufactory should be postponed. On the 24th of April, however, the destruction of this manufactory was accomplished. Intelligence having been obtained of the intended attack, a military force was sent for its protection, and the assailants dispersed before the arrival of the military, who then returned to their quarters; the rioters taking advantage of their absence, assailed and forced the manufactory, set it on fire, and again dispersed before the military could be brought again to the spot.

Symptoms of the same spirit appeared at Newcastle-under-Lyne, Wigan, Warrington, and other towns; and the contagion in the mean time had spread to Carlisle and into Yorkshire.

In Huddersfield, in the west riding of Yorkshire, and in the neighbourhood, the destruction of dressing and shearing machines and shears began early in February; fire arms were seized during the course of March, and a constable was shot at in his own house. In March a great number of machines belonging to Mr. Vicarman were destroyed; and in April the destruction of Bradley mills, near Huddersfield, was threatened, and afterwards attempted, but the mills were protected by a guard, which defeated the attempt. About the same time the machinery of Mr. Rhodes's mill at Tentwistle, near to Stockport, was utterly destroyed,

and Mr. Horsfall, a respectable merchant and mill-owner, in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield, was shot about six o'clock in the afternoon, in broad day-light, on the 28th of April, returning from market, and died on the 30th of the same month.

A reward of 2,000*l.* was offered for the discovery of the murderers, but no discovery has yet been made, though it appears that he was shot by four persons, each of whom lodged a ball in his body; that when he fell, the populace surrounded and reviled him, instead of offering assistance, and no attempt was made to secure the assassins, who were seen to retire to an adjoining wood. Some time after a young woman was attacked in the streets of Leeds, and nearly murdered, her skull being fractured; and the supposed reason for this violence was an apprehension that she had been near the spot when Mr. Horsfall was murdered; and might therefore be able to give evidence which might lead to the detection of the murderers.

The town of Leeds had for some time before been much alarmed by information that attacks were intended to be made on places in the town and its neighbourhood, which induced the magistrates to desire a strong military force, and to appoint a great number of respectable inhabitants of the town special constables, by which means the peace of the town was in a great degree preserved.

Early, however, in the morning of the 24th of March, the mills of Messrs. Thompsons, at Rawdon, a large village about eight miles from Leeds, was attacked by a large body of armed men, who proceeded

ed with great regularity and caution, first seizing the watchman at the mill, and placing guards at every neighbouring cottage, threatening death to any who should attempt to give alarm, and then forcibly entering the mill, they completely destroyed the machinery. In the following night, notwithstanding the precautions adopted, the buildings belonging to Messrs. Dickinsons, in Leeds, were forcibly entered, and the whole of the goods there, consisting principally of cloths, were cut to pieces. Many other persons in Leeds were threatened with similar treatment, and the proceedings at this place are represented to have had for their object the destruction of all descriptions of goods prepared otherwise than by manual labour.

At Leversedge, near Hockmondwicke, which is in the neighbourhood of the Moors dividing Lancashire and Yorkshire, an attack was made early in the morning of the 12th of April by a body of armed men, represented to have been between two and three hundred in number, on a valuable mill belonging to Mr. Cartwright. The mill was defended with great courage by Mr. Cartwright, the proprietor, with the assistance of three of his men and five soldiers, and the assailants were at length compelled to retire, being unable to force an entrance into the mill, and their ammunition probably failing. Two of the assailants were left on the spot desperately wounded, and were secured, but died of their wounds. Many others are supposed to have been also wounded, and information was afterwards obtained of the death of one of them. When the assailants retired, they declared

a determination to take Mr. Cartwright's life by any means. One of the wounded men who was left on the spot was only nineteen years of age, and son of a man in a respectable situation in the neighbourhood; but neither this man nor the other prisoner would make any confession respecting their confederates in this outrage. The neighbouring inhabitants, who assembled about the mill, after the rioters had retired, only expressed their regret that the attempt had failed. A vast concourse of people attended the funeral of the young man before described, who died of his wounds; and there was found written on walls in many places, "Vengeance for the blood of the innocent."

The threats against Mr. Cartwright's life were attempted to be put into execution on the 18th of April, when he was twice shot at in the road from Huddersfield to Rawfold. About the same time a shot was fired at a special constable on duty at Leeds, and a ball was fired at night into the house of Mr. Armitage, a magistrate in the neighbourhood, and lodged in the ceiling of his bed-room. Colonel Campbell also, who commanded the troops at Leeds, was shot at in the night of May 8, upon returning to his own house, by two men, who discharged their pieces at him within the distance of twenty yards, and immediately after, a third shot was fired, directed towards the room usually occupied by Colonel Campbell and his family.

At Horbury, near Wakefield, valuable mills were attacked on the 9th of April by an armed body, supposed to consist of 300 men. The machinery and considerable property

property were destroyed. The men who committed the outrage were seen on the road between Wakefield and Horbury, marching in regular sections, preceded by a mounted party with drawn swords, and followed by the same number of mounted men as a rear guard. They were supposed to have assembled from Huddersfield, Duesbury, Hickmondwicke, Guildersome, Morley, Wakefield, and other places.

In many parts of this district of country the well-disposed were so much under the influence of terror, that the magistrates were unable to give protection by putting the watch and ward act in execution, and the lower orders are represented as generally either abettors of, or participators in, the outrages committed, or so intimidated, that they dared not to interfere.

At Sheffield the storehouse of arms of the local militia was surprised in the month of May, a large proportion of the arms were broken by the mob, and many taken away. This disturbance, however, seems to have been followed by no further consequences, and the remainder of the arms were secured.

But during the months of May and June depredations of different kinds, and particularly these seizure of arms, continued to be nightly committed in other parts of Yorkshire; and it is represented, that in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield and Birstall the arms of all the peaceable inhabitants had been swept away by bands of armed robbers. In consequence of these outrages the vice-lieutenant of the West Riding, the deputy-lieutenant, and magistrates, assembled at Wake-

field on the 17th of June, and came to a resolution, "That the most alarming consequences were to be apprehended from the nightly depredations which were committed by bodies of armed men." At the same time this remarkable circumstance was stated, that amongst one hundred depositions taken by the magistrates of the facts of robberies committed, there was only one as to the perpetrator of the crime. During the latter part of this period, it is represented that nightly robberies of arms, lead, and ammunition, were prevalent in the districts bounded by the rivers Air and Calder, and that the patrols which went along both banks of the Calder, found the people in the ill-affected villages up at midnight, and heard the firing of small arms at short distances from them, through the whole night, to a very great extent, which they imagined proceeded from parties at drill. In the corner of Cheshire, touching upon Yorkshire and Lancashire, in the neighbourhood and to the eastward of Ashton, Stockport, and Moultram, nocturnal meetings were more frequent than ever, and the seizure of arms carried on with great perseverance. Peculiar difficulties are stated to exist in this quarter from the want of magistrates.

Your committee have not thought it necessary to detail, or even to state, all the outrages which have been committed in different parts of the country, but have selected from the great mass of materials before them, such facts only as appeared to them sufficient to mark the extent and nature of these disturbances.

The causes alleged for these destructive

structive proceedings have been generally the want of employment for the working manufacturers, a want, however, which has been the least felt in some of the places where the disorders have been most prevalent; the application of machinery to supply the place of labour; and the high price of provisions; but it is the opinion of persons, both in civil and military stations, well acquainted with the state of the country, an opinion grounded upon various information from different quarters now before your committee, but which, for obvious reasons, they do not think proper to detail, that the views of some of the persons engaged in these proceedings have extended to revolutionary measures of the most dangerous description.

Their proceedings manifest a degree of caution and organization which appears to flow from the direction of some persons under whose influence they act; but it is the opinion of a person, whose situation gives him great opportunities of information, that their leaders, although they may possess considerable influence, are still of the lowest orders; men of desperate fortunes, who have taken advantage of the pressure of the moment, to work upon the inferior class, through the medium of the associations in the manufacturing parts of the country.

The general persuasion of the persons engaged in those transactions appears, however, to be, that all the societies in the country are directed in their motions by a Secret Committee, and that this Secret Committee is therefore the great mover of the whole machine;

and it is established by the various information to which the committee has before alluded, that societies are formed in different parts of the country; that these societies are governed by their respective secret committees; that delegates are continually dispatched from one place to another, for the purpose of concerting their plans; and that secret signs are arranged, by which the persons engaged in these conspiracies are known to each other. The form of the oath or engagement administered to those who are enlisted in these societies, also refers expressly to the existence of such secret committees.

The object of this oath is to prevent discovery, by deterring through the fear of assassination those who take it from impeaching others, and by binding them to assassinate those by whom any of the persons engaged may be impeached. These oaths appear to have been administered to a considerable extent; copies of them have been obtained from various quarters, and though slightly differing in terms, they are so nearly the same, as to prove the systematic nature of the concert by which they are administered.

The oath itself is of so atrocious a nature, that your committee have thought it right to insert the form, as it appears in one of those copies:—

“*I, A. B.* of my own voluntary will, do declare, and solemnly swear, that I never will reveal to any person or persons under the canopy of heaven, the names of the persons who compose this Secret Committee, their proceedings, meeting, places of abode, dress, features,

features, connections, or any thing else that might lead to a discovery of the same, either by word or deed, or sign, under the penalty of being sent out of the world by the first brother who shall meet me, and my name and character blotted out of existence, and never to be remembered but with contempt and abhorrence; and I further now do swear, that I will use my best endeavours to punish by death any traitor or traitors, should any rise up amongst us, wherever I can find him or them, and though he should fly to the verge of nature, I will pursue him with increasing vengeance. So help me God, and bless me to keep this my oath inviolable."

The military organization carried on by persons engaged in these societies, has also proceeded to an alarming length; they assemble in large numbers, in general by night, upon heaths or commons, which are numerous and extensive in some of the districts where the disturbances have been most serious; so assembled, they take the usual military precautions of paroles and countersigns; then muster rolls are called over by numbers, not by names; they are directed by leaders sometimes in disguise; they place sentries to give alarm at the approach of any persons whom they may suspect of meaning to interrupt or give information of their proceedings; and they disperse instantly at the firing of a gun, or other signal agreed upon, and so disperse as to avoid detection. They have in some instances used signals by rockets or blue lights, by which they communicate intelligence to their parties.

They have procured a considerable quantity of arms, by the depredations which are daily and nightly continued; they have plundered many places of lead for the purpose of making musket balls, and have made some seizures of gunpowder.

Their progress in discipline appears from the representation before given of the two attacks upon the mills of Rawdon and Henbury; and the money, which has been in many instances obtained by contribution or plunder, answers the purpose of support, and may serve as an inducement to many persons to engage in these disturbances.

The system of intimidation, produced not only by the oaths and engagements before mentioned, or by threats of violence, but by the attack and destruction of houses and factories, by actual assassinations in some instances, and attempts at assassination in others, under circumstances which have hitherto generally baffled all endeavours to discover and bring to justice the offenders, all tend to render these proceedings greatly alarming to the country. In many parts the quiet inhabitants consider themselves as enjoying protection only as far as the military force can extend its exertions, and look upon the rest of the country, where the disturbances took place, as at the mercy of the rioters.

The legal proceedings at Nottingham checked the disposition to disturbance in that quarter, but this effect did not extend to other parts of the country; and though the proceedings under the special commissions since issued, and the convictions and executions at Lancaster

caster and Chester, appear to make a considerable impression, they have been far from restoring peace and security to the disturbed districts.

A great military force has been assembled; the local militia has been in many places called out, and has done good service; the yeomanry corps have been active and highly useful. Many of the magistrates have zealously exerted their powers, some of them at great personal hazard. In many places great numbers of special constables have been appointed from amongst the more respectable inhabitants, and the Watch and Ward Act has been in some places put in force, though attempted without effect in others, or abandoned from circumstances already stated. All these efforts have proved insufficient effectually to put down the spirit of disturbance: and it is therefore the decided opinion of your committee, that some further measures should be immediately adopted by parliament for affording more effectual protection to the lives and properties of his Majesty's subjects, and for suppressing a system of turbulence and disorder which has already proved destructive of the tranquillity, and highly injurious to the property and welfare of some of the most populous and important districts of the country, and which, unless effectually checked, may lead to consequences still more extensive and dangerous.

Embargo and Detention of American Ships.—From the London Gazette; Saturday, August 1.

At the court at Carlton House,

the 31st of July, 1812: present, his royal highness the Prince Regent in Council:—

It is this day ordered, by his royal highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, and by and with the advice of his Majesty's privy council, that no ships or vessels belonging to any of his Majesty's subjects be permitted to enter and clear out for any of the ports within the territories of the United States of America, until further order; and his Royal Highness is further pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, and by and with the advice aforesaid, to order, that a general embargo or stop be made of all ships and vessels whatsoever, belonging to the citizens of the United States of America, now within, or which shall hereafter come into any of the ports, harbours, or roads, within any part of his Majesty's dominions, together with all persons and effects on board all such ships and vessels; and that the commanders of his Majesty's ships of war and privateers, do detain and bring into port all ships and vessels belonging to the citizens of the United States of America, or bearing the flag of the said United States, except such as may be furnished with British licences, which vessels are allowed to proceed according to the tenor of the said licences; but that the utmost care be taken for the preservation of all and every part of the cargoes on board any of the said ships or vessels, so that no damage or embezzlement whatever be sustained; and the commanders of his Majesty's ships of war and privateers are hereby instructed to

to detain and bring into port every such ship and vessel accordingly, except such as are above excepted : and the right hon. the lords commissioners of his Majesty's treasury, the lords commissioners of the Admiralty, and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

CHETWYND.

Prince Regent's Speech on opening Parliament, Nov. 30th.

This day the business of the Session commenced with the usual formalities. Soon after two o'clock, his royal highness the Prince Regent arrived at the House, attended by the great officers of state, &c. when, the members of the House of Commons being called in, his Royal Highness was pleased to deliver the following speech from the throne:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is with the deepest concern that I am obliged to announce to you, at the opening of this parliament, the continuance of his Majesty's lamented indisposition, and the diminution of the hopes, which I have most anxiously entertained, of his recovery.

The situation of public affairs has induced me to take the earliest opportunity of meeting you after the late elections. I am persuaded you will cordially participate in the satisfaction which I derive from the improvement of our prospects during the course of the present year.

The valour and intrepidity displayed by his Majesty's forces, and

those of his allies in the Peninsula, on so many occasions during this campaign, and the consummate skill and judgment with which the operations have been conducted by General the Marquis of Wellington, have led to consequences of the utmost importance to the common cause.

By transferring the war into the interior of Spain, and by the glorious and ever memorable victory obtained at Salamanca, he has compelled the enemy to raise the siege of Cadiz ; and the southern provinces of that kingdom have been delivered from the power and arms of France.

Although I cannot but regret that the efforts of the enemy, combined with a view to one great operation, have rendered it necessary to withdraw from the siege of Burgos, and to evacuate Madrid, for the purpose of concentrating the main body of the allied forces ; these efforts of the enemy have, nevertheless, been attended with important sacrifices on their part, which must materially contribute to extend the resources, and facilitate the exertions, of the Spanish Nation.

I am confident I may rely on your determination to continue to afford every aid in support of a contest, which has first given to the continent of Europe the example of persevering and successful resistance to the power of France, and on which not only the independence of the nations of the Peninsula, but the best interests of his Majesty's dominions essentially depend.

I have great pleasure in communicating to you, that the relations of peace and friendship have been restored

restored from his Majesty and the courts of St. Petersburg and Stockholm.

I have directed copies of the treaties to be laid before you.

In a contest for his own sovereign rights, and for the independence of his dominions, the Emperor of Russia has had to oppose a large proportion of the military power of the French government, assisted by its allies, and by the tributary states dependent upon it.

The resistance which he has opposed to so formidable a combination, cannot fail to excite sentiments of lasting admiration.

By his own magnanimity and perseverance; by the zeal and disinterestedness of all ranks of his subjects; and by the gallantry, firmness, and intrepidity of his forces, the presumptuous expectations of the enemy have been signally disappointed.

The enthusiasm of the Russian nation has increased with the difficulties of the contest, and with the dangers with which they were surrounded. They have submitted to sacrifices of which there are few examples in the history of the world; and I indulge the confident hope, that the determined perseverance of his Imperial Majesty will be crowned with ultimate success; and that this contest, in its result, will have the effect of establishing, upon a foundation never to be shaken, the security and independence of the Russian empire.

The proof of confidence which I have received from his Imperial Majesty, in the measure which he has adopted of sending his fleets to the ports of this country, is in the highest degree grati-

fying to me: and his Imperial Majesty may most fully rely on my fixed determination to afford him the most cordial support in the great contest in which he is engaged.

I have the satisfaction further to acquaint you, that I have concluded a treaty with his Sicilian Majesty, supplementary to the treaties of 1808 and 1809.

As soon as the ratifications shall have been exchanged, I will direct a copy of this treaty to be laid before you.

My object has been to provide for the more extensive application of the military force of the Sicilian government to offensive operations; a measure which, combined with the liberal and enlightened principles which happily prevail in the councils of his Sicilian Majesty, is calculated, I trust, to augment his power and resources, and, at the same time, to render them essentially serviceable to the common cause.

The Declaration of War by the government of the United States of America was made under circumstances, which might have afforded a reasonable expectation, that the amicable relations between the two nations would not be long interrupted. It is with sincere regret that I am obliged to acquaint you, that the conduct and pretensions of that government have hitherto prevented the conclusion of any pacific arrangement.

Their measures of hostility have been principally directed against the adjoining British provinces, and every effort has been made to seduce the inhabitants of them from their allegiance to his Majesty.

The proofs, however, which I have received of loyalty and attachment

tachment from his Majesty's subjects in North America are highly satisfactory.

The attempts of the enemy to invade Upper Canada have not only proved abortive, but by the judicious arrangements of the governor-general, and by the skill and decision with which the military operations have been conducted, the forces of the enemy assembled for that purpose in one quarter have been compelled to capitulate, and in another have been completely defeated.

My best efforts are not wanting for the restoration of the relations of peace and amity between the two countries; but until this object can be attained without sacrificing the maritime rights of Great Britain, I shall rely upon your cordial support in a vigorous prosecution of the war.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have directed the estimates for the services of the ensuing year to be laid before you, and I entertain no doubt of your readiness to furnish such supplies as may enable me to provide for the great interests committed to my charge, and afford the best prospect of bringing the contest in which his Majesty is engaged to a successful termination.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The approaching expiration of the charter of the East-India Company renders it necessary that I should call your early attention to the propriety of providing effectually for the future government of the provinces of India.

In considering the variety of in-

terests which are connected with this important subject, I rely on your wisdom for making such an arrangement as may best promote the prosperity of the British possessions in that quarter, and at the same time secure the greatest advantages to the commerce and revenue of his Majesty's dominions.

I have derived great satisfaction from the success of the measures which have been adopted for suppressing the spirit of outrage and insubordination which had appeared in some parts of the country; and from the disposition which has been manifested to take advantage of the indemnity held out to the deluded, by the wisdom and benevolence of parliament.

I trust I shall never have occasion to lament the recurrence of atrocities so repugnant to the British character; and that all his Majesty's subjects will be impressed with the conviction, that the happiness of individuals, and the welfare of the state, equally depend upon a strict obedience to the laws, and an attachment to our excellent constitution.

In the loyalty of his Majesty's people, and in the wisdom of parliament, I have reason to place the fullest confidence. The same firmness and perseverance which have been manifested on so many and such trying occasions, will not, I am persuaded, be wanting at a time when the eyes of all Europe, and of the world, are fixed upon you. I can assure you, that in the exercise of the great trust reposed in me, I have no sentiment so near my heart as the desire to promote, by every means in my power, the real prosperity and lasting happiness of his Majesty's subjects.

Message

*Message from the Prince Regent
to both Houses of Parliament,
Dec. 17, on a Grant to Russia.*

“ G. P. R.

“ The Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, having taken into his serious consideration the accounts which he has received of the severe distresses to which the inhabitants of a part of the empire of Russia have been exposed in their persons and property, in consequence of the unprovoked and atrocious invasion of that country by the Ruler of France, and the exemplary and extraordinary magnanimity and fortitude with which they

have submitted to the greatest privations and sufferings in the defence of their country, and the ardent loyalty and unconquerable spirit they have displayed in its cause, whereby results have been produced of the utmost importance to the interests of this kingdom, and to the general cause of Europe, recommends to the House of Commons, to enable his Royal Highness, in aid of the contributions which have been commenced within the Russian empire for this purpose, to afford to the suffering subjects of his Majesty's good and great ally, the Emperor of Russia, such speedy and effectual relief as may be suitable to this most interesting occasion.”

PUBLIC INCOME.

HEADS OF REVENUE.		Gross Revenue.			Nett Produce.			Payments into Exchequer.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
ORDINARY REVENUES :										
<i>Permanent and Annual Taxes.</i>										
Customs.....		9,676,009	4	7 ³ / ₄	7,835,236	5	6 ¹ / ₂	6,802,402	15	4 ¹ / ₂
Excise.....		20,617,266	8	0	19,003,970	16	5 ³ / ₄	18,489,914	12	4
Stamps.....		5,396,882	11	5 ³ / ₄	5,291,224	9	10 ¹ / ₂	5,090,478	11	3
Land and Assessed Taxes.....		7,399,442	1	0 ³ / ₄	7,280,919	4	8 ¹ / ₂	6,868,230	8	9 ¹ / ₂
Post Office.....		1,709,869	1	9 ¹ / ₂	1,478,405	3	1 ¹ / ₂	1,274,000	0	0
1s. in the £. on Pensions and Salaries.....		19,288	7	2 ¹ / ₄	26,201	4	11 ¹ / ₂	22,335	6	8
6d. in the £. on Pensions and Salaries.....		17,650	8	8 ¹ / ₂	21,480	6	6 ¹ / ₂	15,372	1	9
Hackney Coaches.....		30,909	0	0	28,076	9	1 ¹ / ₂	27,677	0	0
Hawkers and Pedlars.....		23,282	18	11	21,240	16	7	22,221	3	5
Total Permanent and Annual Duties.....		44,890,600	1	9 ¹ / ₂	40,986,860	16	10 ¹ / ₂	39,611,631	19	6 ¹ / ₂
<i>Small Branches of the Hereditary Revenue.</i>										
Alienation Fines.....		8,571	10	0	9,570	10	9	Handl 2,000	0	0
Post Fines.....		2,032	5	0	5,357	12	11 ¹ / ₂	aper 4,039	12	0
Seizures.....		26,044	6	10 ¹ / ₂	26,044	6	10 ¹ / ₂	26,044	6	10 ¹ / ₂
Compositions and Proffers.....		595	4	11	595	4	11	595	4	11
Crown Lands.....		82,507	16	2 ³ / ₄	85,858	12	0 ¹ / ₂	33,135	7	9
Carried forward.....		119,751	3	0 ¹ / ₂	127,436	7	6	65,814	11	6 ¹ / ₂

PUBLIC INCOME.

HEADS OF REVENUE.		Gross Revenue.			Nett Produce.			Payments into Exchequer.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Extraordinary Resources.</i>										
War Taxes. Customs Excise Property Tax Arrears of Income Duty, &c. Lottery, Nett Profit—one-third for Ireland Monies paid on Account of the Interest of Loans raised for the Service of Ireland On Account of the Commissioners, appointed for issuing Exchequer Bills for Grenada, &c. Surplus Fees of Regulated Public Offices Surplus Revenue of the Isle of Man On Account of the Interest, &c. of a Loan granted to the Prince Regent of Portugal Imprest Money repaid by sundry Public Accountants, &c. Other Monies paid to the Public	Brought forward.....	119,751	3	0½	127,426	7	6	65,814	11	6½
	.....	3,013,723	2	4½	2,633,919	0	10	2,633,919	0	10
	.....	6,543,953	1	0	6,484,964	19	7½	6,410,139	17	8
	.....	13,220,355	4	5	13,437,649	19	8½	12,941,155	5	10½
	.....	14,541	9	6½	14,336	5	0½	14,336	5	0½
	.....	304,000	0	0	281,386	8	0	281,386	8	0
	.....	2,752,796	11	10	2,762,796	11	10	2,752,796	11	10
	.....	31,000	0	0	31,000	0	0	31,000	0	0
	.....	73,324	17	11½	73,324	17	11½	73,324	17	11½
	.....	1,595	0	8	1,595	0	8	1,595	0	8
	.....	57,170	3	0	57,170	3	0	57,170	3	0
	.....	40,301	9	7½	40,301	9	7½	40,301	9	7½
	.....	50,476	0	9	50,476	0	9	50,476	0	9
Total, independent of Loans		71,113,588	6	0	66,973,208	1	5	63,965,047	12	4½
Loans paid into the Exchequer (of which the Sum of 4,500,000 <i>l.</i> is for the Service of Ireland)		16,636,375	3	9	16,636,375	3	9	16,636,375	3	9
GRAND TOTAL.....		87,749,963	9	9	83,609,583	5	2	80,601,422	16	1½

CONSOLIDATED FUND AND PERMANENT TAXES.

INCOME.			CHARGE.			Actual Payment out of the Consolidated Fund, in the Year ended 5th Jan. 1812.			Future Annual Charge upon the consolidated Fund, as it stood on 5th Jan. 1812.		
£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Nett Produce of the Customs.....	3,410,457	7 1½	Total Charge for Debt created prior to 5th Jan. 1803, as it stood on 5th Jan. 1812	24,141,187	10 11¾	24,127,903	0	3			
Excise	14,617,320	12 4									
Stamps	2,914,251	2 11½									
Incidents.....	5,657,376	14 2½									
Surplus of Sugar, Malt, and Tobacco, annually granted.....	1,179,421	18 7	CIVIL LIST.								
Do.....6d. and 1s. per lb. on Pensions and Salaries.....	2,707	8 5	His Majesty's Household	958,000	0 0	958,000	0	0			
Arrears of annual Malt, 1809, 1810 Pensions, Offices, and Personal Es- tates, 1804 to 1811	553,923	0 0	COURTS OF JUSTICE.								
Land Taxes, 1801 to 1811.....	129,497	9 7½	Judges of England and Wales, in Augmentation of their Salaries....	13,050	0 0	13,050	0	0			
Income Duty, 1799 to 1801	996,336	0 5¼	Deficiencies of Judges Salaries in Eng- land	13,035	4 3½	Uncertain.					
Arrears of Assessed Taxes, 1798....	14,214	15 0	Additional Salaries to Judges in Wales.....	3,200	0 0	3,200	0	0			
Money reserved on Account of Nomi- nees appointed by the Lords of the Treasury, in Tontine, 1809	121	10 0¼	Aaron Graham, Esq. Inspector of tem- porary Places of Confinement for Felons.....	350	0 0	350	0	0			
Fines of Leases	23,911	8 5	William Baldwin, Esq. Receiver of the Seven Police Offices	16,573	6 6¾	Uncertain.					
Rent of Crown Lands.....	8,099	0 0	Patrick Colquhoun, Esq. Ditto, Thames Ditto.....	6,598	4 6						
Monies paid into the Treasury by di- vers persons	24,165	14 4½									
	1,110,416	1 7½									
Total Income, applicable towards Debt created before 5th January, 1803..	30,642,920	3 2¼									

DUTIES pro Anno 1803.				VICE ADMIRALTY JUDGES. — J. W.			
Reserved out of the Consolidated Customs.....	250,000	0	0	Compton, Esq. Chief Justice of the Vice Admiralty Court, at Barbadoes	2,000	0	0
Brought from Consolidated Duties on Stamps.....	59,965	15	3	Henry Moreton Dyer, Esq. Ditto Bahamas.....	3,000	0	0
Reserved out of Consolidated Duties on Assessed Taxes.....	289,705	0	0	Alexander Croke, Esq. Ditto, America	3,000	0	0
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland.....	136,052	17	1	John Sewell, Esq. Ditto, Malta.....	2,000	0	0
TOTAL.....	735,723	12	4	Henry John Hinccliffe, Esq. Ditto, Jamaica.....	2,000	0	0
DUTIES pro Anno 1804.				William Terril, Esq. Ditto, Bermuda	4,000	0	0
Brought from Consolidated Stamp Duties.....	960,346	18	11	Sheriffs of England and Wales.....	4,000	0	0
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland.....	330,213	17	2	Clerk of the Hanaper in Chancery....	5,500	0	0
Total.....	1,290,460	16	1	MINT.			
DUTIES pro Anno 1805.				Masters of his Majesty's Mint in England.....	6,900	0	0
Brought from Consolidated Stamp Duties.....	52,813	16	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto, Scotland.....	1,200	0	0
Ditto from Consolidated Customs on Goods.....	252,196	10	0	Receiver of Fees in the Office of the Mint.....	2,737	13	0
Taken from Consolidated Letter Money	350,333	6	8	SALARIES and ALLOWANCES.....	66,640	13	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Reserved out of Consolidated Duties on Assessed Taxes, Duty on Horses	149,924	0	0	MISCELLANEOUS.....	58,637	8	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Duties taken from Consolidated Excise	709,364	0	0	PENSIONS.....	299,981	1	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland.....	276,937	14	1	Total of Incidental Charges upon the Consolidated Fund, as they stood on the 5th of January, 1812.....	1,472,403	11	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total.....	1,791,069	7	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	Debt incurred in respect of 12,000,000 <i>l.</i> raised for the Service of the year 1803.....	1,313,062	13	0
					817,120	10	6 $\frac{1}{2}$

CONSOLIDATED FUND AND PERMANENT TAXES.

INCOME.	CHARGE.		Annual Payment out of the Consolidated Fund, upon the Consolidated Fund, as it stood on 5th Jan. 1812.		Future Annual Charge upon the Consolidated Fund, as it stood on 5th Jan. 1812.	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
DUTIES pro Anno 1806.						
Wine Anno 1803, 1804, and Tea....	441,483	0 0			1,174,168	18 0
British Spirits, Anno 1806.....	362,700	0 0				
Reserved out of Consolidated Duties on Assessed Taxes	542,299	0 0			1,716,992	0 4
Brought from Consolidated Stamp Duties.....	6,917	1 4				
Interest, &c. on Loan for the Service of Ireland.....	133,865	8 1			1,339,288	0 0
Total.....	1,487,264	9 5				
DUTIES pro Anno 1807.						
Brought from War Taxes to pay the Charge of Loan.....	1,200,000	0 0			1,434,519	14 5
Interest, &c. on Loan for the Service of Ireland.....	222,874	13 6			878,055	2 4½
Total.....	1,422,874	13 6				
DUTIES pro Anno 1808.						
Surplus of Consolidated Duties on Assessed Taxes	131,675	13 10½			1,378,006	7 7
					1,531,507	6 4½

Surplus of Consolidated Stamp Duties Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland.....	150,000 0 0 148,700 11 9 430,376 5 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Debt incurred in respect of 7,018,000 <i>l.</i> Exchequer Bills, funded for the ser- vice of the Year 1811	918,744 16 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,494,962 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
TOTAL				
DUTIES pro Anno 1809.				
Brought from Consolidated Customs..	105,000 0 0			
Ditto from War Taxes, to pay the				
Charge of Loan of 1809	1,040,000 0 0	Total Charge for Debt incurred prior to 1803.....	24,141,187 10 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	24,127,903 0 3
Charges of Loan for the Prince Regent of Portugal	57,170 3 0 177,267 15 11	Total of Incidental Charges.....	1,472,403 11 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,313,062 13 0
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland ..		Total Charge for Debt incurred in 1803	817,120 10 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	817,120 10 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	1,379,437 18 11	Ditto.....Ditto.....1804	1,174,168 18 0	1,174,168 18 0
DUTIES pro Anno 1810.		Ditto.....Ditto.....1805	1,716,992 0 4	1,716,992 0 0
Brought from Consolidated Stamp Duties	946,683 16 1 413,165 1 8	Ditto.....Ditto.....1806	1,339,288 0 0	1,339,288 0 4
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland ..		Ditto.....Ditto.....1807	1,434,519 14 5	1,434,519 14 5
Total	1,359,948 17 9	Ditto.....Ditto.....1808	878,055 2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	878,055 2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
DUTIES pro Anno 1811.		Ditto.....Ditto.....1809	1,378,006 7 7	1,378,006 7 7
Interest, &c. on Loan	216,089 14 1	Ditto.....Ditto.....1810	1,531,507 6 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,540,820 7 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
British Spirits, 1811	142,315 0 0	Ditto.....Ditto.....1811	918,744 16 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,494,962 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Foreign Spirits, ditto.....	20,055 0 0	TOTAL CHARGE upon the CONSOLI- DATED FUND in the Year ended 5th		
Total	378,459 14 1	January, 1812	36,801,993 18 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	37,214,898 16 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
TOTAL INCOME of CONSOLIDATED FUND in the year ended 5th Janu- ary, 1812	40,917,835 18 4 $\frac{1}{2}$			

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An Account of the Nett Produce of all the PERMANENT TAXES of GREAT BRITAIN; taken for Two Years, ending respectively 5th January, 1811, and 5th January, 1812.

	In the Year ended 5th Jan. 1811.			In the Year ended 5th Jan. 1812.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
CONSOLIDATED CUSTOMS	4,869,366	5	5½	3,974,732	1	10½
... Ditto.....EXCISE	15,867,564	15	0	15,768,167	12	4
....Ditto.....STAMPS	5,332,509	0	10	5,086,782	11	2
INCIDENTS.						
Houses and Windows .....1766....	-	-	-	300	0	0
Horses for Riding.....1785....	312	0	0	200	0	0
Male Servants	-	-	-	300	0	0
Carts	6	0	0	-	-	-
Hackney Coaches & Chairs 1711 and 1784	25,458	0	0	23,877	0	0
6d. per lib. on Pensions ..1721.....	18,318	2	0½	-	-	-
1s. ditto on Salaries ....1758.....	4,367	7	3½	-	-	-
4-wheeled Carriages.....1785.....	206	18	0	50	0	0
2.....Ditto.....	-	-	-	150	0	0
Waggons	4	9	0	-	-	-
£.10 per Cent .....1791.....	-	2	9½	-	-	-
Letter Money	1,256,000	0	0	1,275,000	0	0
Hawkers and Pedlers	14,353	13	4½	20,251	3	5
Seizures.....	14,773	7	3½	26,044	6	10½
Proffers	618	6	11	593	1	7
Compositions	1	10	0	2	3	4
Fines and Forfeitures	303	9	0	873	10	0
Rent of a Light House.....	6	13	4	6	13	4
Ditto....Alum Mines	864	0	0	864	0	0
Alienation Duty	4,443	18	8	4,040	2	0
Lottery Licences	3,946	8	6	3,696	0	1
Quarantine Duty	26,462	2	5½	12,679	0	0
Canal and Dock Duty	44,142	11	5	32,907	10	5½
Hair Powder Certificates ..1795.....	-	-	-	902	2	0
Horse Dealers Licences ..1796.....	-	-	-	200	0	0
£20 per Cent.....1797.....	562	13	2	300	0	0
Houses .....1778.....	-	-	-	200	0	0
Horses .....1797.....	-	-	-	200	0	0
Dogs	-	-	-	100	0	0
Additional Assessed Taxes ..1798.....	6,157	19	0½	121	10	0½
Houses and Windows	100	0	0	1,299	6	0
Inhabited Houses	-	-	-	220	9	4
Horses for Riding	-	-	-	741	2	0
Ditto....Husbandry	-	-	-	1,235	14	0
Male Servants	-	-	-	20	11	0
4-Wheel Carriages	-	-	-	34	16	0
2.....Ditto	-	-	-	1,027	12	0
Dogs	-	-	-	1,012	6	0
Armorial Bearings	-	-	-	501	11	6
Horses for Husbandry....1801.....	-	-	-	23	16	0
Ditto....Riding	-	-	-	17	10	0
Houses and Windows....1802.....	203	18	10	2,628	2	5
Inhabited Houses	200	0	0	1,300	0	0
Horses for Riding.....	87	0	0	576	8	4

	Ditto, 5th Jan. 1811.			Ditto, 5th Jan. 1812.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Horses for Husbandry	-	-	-	420	5	6
Male Servants	-	-	-	21	6	1
4-Wheeled Carriages	225	1	1	92	16	0
2.....Ditto	27	0	0	500	0	0
Dogs	-	-	-	503	6	0
Houses and Windows... 1804.....	36,592	11	1	10,361	15	6
Inhabited Houses	31,386	8	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,930	19	3
Horses for Riding	41,510	5	7	4,803	14	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto and Mules	44,035	2	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6,421	9	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Male Servants	24,878	16	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,009	10	7
Carriages	34,454	7	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,111	16	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dogs	24,636	2	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,739	17	8
Hair Powder Certificates	15,051	10	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,131	11	4
Horse Dealers Licences	4,443	11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	734	7	0
Armorial Bearings	10,847	4	11	1,875	1	5
British Spirits	195,400	0	0	505,015	0	0
Foreign Spirits	-	-	-	20,055	0	0
£. 10 per Cent.	49,186	19	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	8,870	0	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Consolidated Assessed Taxes .. 1808.....	5,614,200	17	6	5,667,881	13	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Land Taxes	1,091,917	9	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	999,782	1	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
6d. per lib. on Pensions	16,660	0	0	3,650	0	0
1s. ditto on Salaries	16,720	0	0	6,550	0	0
6d. ditto on Pensions	200	0	0	9,200	0	0
1s. ditto on Salaries	2,400	0	0	12,800	0	0
6d. ditto on Pensions	-	-	-	1,100	0	0
1s. ditto on Salaries	-	-	-	1,700	0	0
Customs, Isle of Man	-	-	-	8,335	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Surplus Duties { Sugar and Malt	580,313	13	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	230,927	11	0
annually grant- { Additional Malts....	737,703	15	9	834,072	0	0
ed, after discharg- { Annual Malts	494,129	0	0	553,923	0	0
ing three millions { Tobacco	133,881	5	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	119,878	0	0
Exchequer Bills { Land Tax on Offices,						
charged thereon . { &c.....	148,111	13	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	129,497	9	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
{ 6d. per £. on Pensions	5,330	0	0	1,422	1	9
{ 1s. ditto Salaries	6,890	0	0	1,285	6	8
	36,852,453	8	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	35,404,781	19	6
Duties annual- { Sugar and Malt	2,242,214	7	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,134,981	18	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
ly granted to dis- { Additional Malts....	252,477	4	3	282,528	0	0
charge three mil- { Annual Malts						
lions Exchequer { Tobacco	376,630	14	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	406,276	0	0
Bills charged { Land Tax on Offices	93	8	2	4,030	0	0
thereon						
	39,724,069	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	38,232,567	17	7 $\frac{1}{2}$

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
I. For Interest, &c. on the Permanent Debt of Great Britain, unredeemed	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,832,054	18	0½
II. The Interest on Exchequer Bills (B).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,556,735	0	5½
III. The Civil List (C).....	-	-	-	-	-	958,000	0	0	
IV. { Other Charges } Courts of Justice	-	-	-	78,306	15	4½			
on the } Mint.....	-	-	-	10,837	13	0			
Consolidated } Allowance to Royal Family.....	-	-	-	299,981	1	5½			
Fund, } Salaries and Allowances.....	-	-	-	66,640	13	9½			
viz. } Bounties	-	-	-	58,637	8	2½			
V. Civil Government of Scotland (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,472,403	11	9½
VI. Other Payments in Anticipation (E)	-	-	-	-	-	-	109,693	6	1
Bounties for Fisheries, Manufactures, Corn, &c.	-	-	-	395,975	2	7			
Pensions on the Hereditary Revenue	-	-	-	27,700	0	0			
Militia and Deserters Warrants	-	-	-	172,874	2	6			
VII. Navy (F) Wages of Officers and Seamen.....	2,721,000	0	0				596,549	5	1
Half Pay to Sea Officers, and Bounty to Chaplains.....	291,000	0	0						
Wages to his Majesty's Dock and Rope Yards	918,000	0	0						
General Services—Building of Ships, Purchase of Stores of every description, Repairing of Ships, Purchase of Ships taken from the Enemy, Head Money, &c.....	4,126,291	15	1						
Bills of Exchange, Impress, Salaries, Pensions, &c.....	1,464,881	15	2						
				5,921,173	10	3			

The Victualling Department.....	-	-	-	6,079,280	1	1
Transport ditto, for Transports, Prisoners of War, Sick and Wounded Seamen.....	3,538,225	3	6			
Miscellaneous Services.....	402,000	1	0	3,940,225	3	6
						19,540,678 14 10
VIII. Ordnance (G).....	-	-	-	-	-	4,557,509 8 6
IX. Army (H).....	-	-	-	13,753,163	0	0
Extraordinary Services.....	-	-	-	10,116,196	0	0
						23,869,359 0 0
X. Loans, Remittances, and Advances to other Countries (I) viz.						
Ireland	-	-	-	4,432,292	15	3
Sicily	-	-	-	275,000	0	0
Portugal.....	-	-	-	2,702,747	0	0
Spain	-	-	-			7,410,039 15 3
XI. Miscellaneous Services (K)						
At Home.....	-	-	-	1,711,309	17	11
Abroad.....	-	-	-	251,326	10	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
						1,962,636 8 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Deduct Loan, &c. for Ireland.....				4,432,292	15	3
Deduct for Interest, &c. on Portuguese Loan.....				57,170	3	0
						95,907,659 8 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
						4,489,462 18 3
This includes the sum of £425,175 0 3 for Interest, &c. paid on Imperial Loans.....						91,418,196 10 0 $\frac{1}{2}$

PUBLIC FUNDED DEBT.

PUBLIC FUNDED DEBT OF GREAT BRITAIN, as the same stood on the 1st of February, 1812.

TOTAL DEBT UNREDEEMED.				£.	s.	d.
Bank of England and Annuities, 1726	-	At 3 per cent.	-	12,686,800	0	0
South Sea Old and New Annuities, 1751	-	Ditto	-	16,507,684	13	11½
Consolidated Annuities	-	Do.	-	341,489,516	11	9¼
Reduced Annuities	-	Do.	-	97,562,377	0	7
Consolidated Annuities	-	At 4 per cent.	-	66,115,296	2	2
Consolidated Annuities	-	At 5 per cent.	-	79,433,223	13	7½
Annuities, 1797 and 1802	-	Ditto	-	1,723,287	3	7
Total CAPITALS	-	-	-	615,518,185	5	8¼
Annual Interest	-	-	-	20,749,828	14	7¼
Annuities for Lives or for Term of Years	-	-	-	1,540,257	19	1¼
Charges of Management	-	-	-	234,254	3	9
Annuities fallen in, or dead; Grants of Parliament, and 1 per cent. on Annual Grants	-	-	-	13,084,274	3	11
Total CHARGE for DEBT payable in GREAT BRITAIN	-	-	-	35,608,615	1	5

UNFUNDED DEBT.

An Account of the UNFUNDED DEBT and DEMANDS OUTSTANDING on the 5th Day of January, 1812.

EXCHEQUER BILLS.		On what Funds charged.		Amount Outstanding.	
Under what Acts issued.					
49 Geo. III. cap. 3	.	Supplies	.	£.3,000,000	0 0
Ditto. cap. 53	.	Ditto	.	3,000,000	0 0
50 Geo. III. cap. 69	.	Ditto 1811	.	1,775,600	0 0
Ditto. cap. 113	.	Ditto	.	2,135,200	0 0
51 Geo. III. cap. 2	.	Malt and Personal Estates, 1811	.	584,000	0 0
Ditto. cap. 3	.	Supplies, 1812	.	10,500,000	0 0
Ditto. cap. 4	.	Ditto	.	1,500,000	0 0
Ditto. cap. 53	.	Ditto	.	6,000,000	0 0
Ditto. cap. 85	.	Ditto 1811	.	11,235,000	0 0
Ditto. cap. 112	.	Ditto 1812	.	1,762,000	0 0
TREASURY:					
Miscellaneous Services	.	.	.	550,307	14 4
Warrants for Army Services	.	.	.	17,522	14 1
Treasury Bills accepted previous to and on the 5th January, 1812, due subsequent to that day				1,143,138	14 3½
				1,710,969	2 8½
				41,491,800	0 0
ARMY:					
Ordinary Services	.	.	.	1,517,003	0 0
Extraordinary Services	.	.	.	Nil.	
Barracks	.	.	.	-	-
Ordnance	.	.	.	-	-
Navy	.	.	.	-	-
Civil List Advances	.	.	.	-	-
				1,517,003	0 0
				289,559	19 4
				1,078,476	5 4
				7,883,890	10 4
				66,360	17 0
				£.54,038,059	14 8½

FOREIGN STATE PAPERS.

Speech addressed by his royal highness the Prince Royal of Sweden to the King, upon his Majesty's resuming the government of the kingdom, on the 7th of January, 1812.

Sire,—My most ardent wishes have been fulfilled. The re-established health of your Majesty again enables you to resume the government of the kingdom.

I can appeal to your own heart; to judge of the delightful emotion mine experiences in replacing in the hands of your Majesty an authority, the prolonged exercise of which has constantly kept before me the danger which threatened your days.

Notwithstanding the daily reports which I have submitted to your Majesty, both respecting the exterior and interior situation of the state, I, nevertheless, consider it my duty to profit by the present occasion, so important for me, upon all accounts, to present your Majesty with a rapid sketch of them.

When your Majesty decided upon embracing the continental policy, and declaring war against Great Britain, Sweden had got clear of an unfortunate contest; her wounds were still bleeding; it was necessary for her to make new sacrifices, at a moment even when she lost one of the principal branches of her public revenues; the whole of that produced by the customs being nearly annihilated.

In defiance of the insulated situ-

ation of Sweden, she has performed, for the interest of the common cause, all that could be expected from a people faithful to their engagements; more than 2,000,000 of rix-dollars have been expended in recruiting the army, and placing in a state of defence the coasts of our islands, our fortresses, and our fleets.

I will not conceal from your Majesty, that our commerce has been reduced to a simple coasting trade from port to port, and has greatly suffered from this state of war. Privateers, under friendly flags, against which it would have been injurious to have adopted measures of safety and precaution; have taken advantage of our confidence in treaties, to capture, one after another, nearly fifty of our merchantmen; but at last, Sire, your flotilla received orders to protect the Swedish flag, and the just commerce of your subjects, against piracies which could neither be authorised nor avowed by any government.

The Danish cruizers have given much cause for complaint on our part; but the evil decreases daily, and every thing leads us to think the lawful commerce of Sweden will not be any longer disturbed by them, and that the relations of good neighbourhood will be more and more strengthened.

The cruizers under the French flag have given an unlimited extension to their letters of marque; the injuries which they have done us have been the object of our complaints. The justice and loyalty of his Majesty the Emperor of the French have guaranteed their redress.

The protections given by friendly

ly governments have been respected; and such of their ships as have touched upon our coasts, have been at liberty to continue their voyage, whatever might be their destination.

About 50 American ships driven upon our coasts by successive tempests, have been released. This act of justice, founded upon the rights of nations, has been appreciated by the United States: and appearances promise us, that better understood relations with their government will facilitate the exportation of the numerous piles of iron with which our public places are now filled.

Political considerations join with the family connection which unites your Majesty and the King of Prussia, to consolidate the relations of friendship that subsist between the two powers.

The peace with Russia will not be troubled: the treaties by which it is cemented are executed on both sides with frankness and good faith.

Our relations with the Austrian empire are upon a most amicable footing; the remembrance of glory brings the two nations nearer to each other; and your Majesty will neglect nothing which can contribute to maintain the reciprocity of confidence and esteem it causes.

If Spain and Portugal should assume a tranquil posture, these countries will offer to Swedish commerce, advantages which would guarantee the perfection of the plans she has commenced for improving her iron mines.

Our intercourse with Southern America has entirely ceased; civil war ravages these fine and unfor-

tunate countries. When they have a regular administration, the produce of the kingdom will find an advantageous vent there.

The maritime war has interrupted our commercial relations with Turkey; but nothing which interests that ancient friend of Sweden can be indifferent to your Majesty.

Such, Sire! are the exterior relations of Sweden;—justice and loyalty towards all nations have been the political guides of your Majesty.

The army and the finances,—those two principal guarantees of a state,—have, above all, been the objects of my constant solicitude.

A wise economy has governed the expenditure of the funds destined for the armaments which the state of war rendered necessary. This war having great influence upon the exportation of Swedish productions, upon the general proceedings of trade, and the imaginations of merchants, had caused the course of exchange to rise to an exorbitant height. I particularly directed my attention to stop this scourge of states; which having once broken its dykes, no bounds can be placed to its ravages; by repressing on the one side, stock jobbing; by carrying into execution the ancient laws against the unlawful exportation of gold and silver; by imposing a duty of transit upon the conveyance of ingots from foreign countries, passing through Sweden; by endeavouring to bring back the nation to the principles of economy which distinguished their ancestors. On the other side, I have endeavoured to give activity to the interior industry and lawful commerce of Sweden.

I have

I have had the satisfaction of seeing my efforts crowned with success; and that the course of exchange upon Hamburgh, which in March last was at 136 sk. on the 3d of the present January, was only 84 sk.

I have taken measures to render more general the manufacture of linen, and the culture of hemp; to proceed actively in the discovery of new sources for obtaining salt; to continue the clearing of the ground in Delecarlia; to establish a new communication with, and new markets in, Vermeland; to form a company destined to carry on the herring-fishery in the open sea; to augment our commercial relations with Finland; to carry into execution the financial resolutions of the States of the kingdom; to give to the direction of magazines, to those of the customs, and to the island of St. Bartholomew, a fresh organization.

The harvest not having proved a good one, I have adopted means to prevent a scarcity, by causing corn to be imported from foreign countries; but in order to prevent such importation influencing the exchange, salt must be exported for grain so received. This exchange will be effected with so much the more facility, as there yet exists a sufficient provision of salt in the country for two years' consumption.

I have with grief observed, that the immoderate use and manufacture of brandy, by which the general interests are sacrificed to individual ones, corrupt the nation, and will sooner or later inevitably cause a scarcity. I have only employed exhortations on this subject,

which I have collected from the paternal sentiments of your Majesty; and I leave it to other times, and to the judgment of the States, to put an end to an evil which, every body acknowledges, continues increasing.

I have paid particular attention to the State and organization of the hospitals, to the religious establishments, and to the means of preventing, or at least of relieving, the condition of mendicity.

The interior police and agriculture have not been lost sight of; and a central Academy of agriculture will shortly be established, for the purpose of giving an impulse and an encouragement to the public economy, and to scientific knowledge, which will contribute to insure the prosperity of the State.

The works of the canal of Gothland, that grand monument of your Majesty's reign, have been carried on with great activity. Those of the canal of Sodertelje, stopped by obstacles which the zealous efforts of the directors have not been able to surmount, have again recommenced with more rapid strides.

I have carried into execution the solemn resolution of the states of the kingdom, sanctioned by your Majesty, regarding the national armament: but, careful not to deprive agriculture of any more arms than are indispensably necessary for the defence of our country, I have merely ordered a levy of 15,000 men, exclusive of the 50,000 which the States had placed at your Majesty's disposal. The most direful errors were carried even into Schonon, where violence and a public rebellion threatened

ened for a moment to oppose the execution of the measures ordained. Already did our enemies, or such as are envious of our repose, begin to rejoice at our intestine dissensions; but these were soon suppressed by the united force of the army and the laws; and were succeeded by the return of national sentiment and obedience to their duty. The vacancies in the new enrolment, and in the national armament, are almost entirely filled up; and every measure has been taken to render them useful in this employ. The regular army has been recruited, as is also the whole of the reserve new clothed, and supplied with well conditioned arms, of which sufficient quantities are found in the magazines; and the founderies for arms have obtained a renewed activity, the making of gunpowder and saltpetre has been extended and improved, and the artillery put into a respectable condition.

The pensions granted to officers and soldiers wounded during the war have been either confirmed or augmented. The accounts of the expenses of the late war have been accelerated; and such measures as have been successively adopted, had no other object in view than to render the troops serviceable, and to supply them with the necessities requisite.

Your Majesty will deign to perceive by this statement that notwithstanding all that the detractors of Sweden have insinuated on this head, as that it would take sixty years to organize an army of 60,000 men; yet the effecting of this will be apparent in the month of April next, both

to the friends and enemies of your Majesty. The intent of this augmentation of our military force is merely defensive. Without any other ambition than that of preserving her liberty and laws, Sweden will have the means of defending herself, and she can do it. Bounded by the sea on one side, and on the other by inaccessible mountains, it is not solely on the courage of her inhabitants, nor in the remembrance of her former glory, that she has to seek for the security of her independence; it is rather to be found in her local situation, in her mountains, her forests, in her lakes, and in her frosts. Let her therefore profit by these united advantages; and let her inhabitants be thoroughly persuaded of this truth, that if iron, the produce of their mountains, cultivates their farms, by ploughing up their fields, that it is likewise iron alone, and the firm determination of making use of it, that can defend them.

I have been seconded in my efforts by the good spirit prevalent in the army, and by the zeal and abilities of the public functionaries.

The Magistracy has maintained its ancient reputation; it has painful duties to fulfil, but this has procured it a fresh claim to the general esteem.

The different departments of the Chancery of State have rivalled each other in giving the quickest dispatch, compatible with the formalities required by our laws and customs, to all business which has come under their cognizance.

The Secretary of State's department for Church affairs, has, since the
the

the 17th of March, expedited nearly 600 causes; that of the interior 952; that of finance and commerce 1653; and the war-department 2535; The causes in which final decision has not yet been given, and which are confined to a very moderate number in each department in comparison to the extent coming under their several denominations, are either of such nature as to require your Majesty's decision, or to be again brought forward for final determination.

Should your Majesty deign to recognize in the sketch which I have laid before you, the desire which has actuated me to deserve the high confidence you have shown towards me, this would prove, next to the joy I feel on your Majesty's re-establishment, the most pleasing recompence for all my pains. May Heaven, in accordance with my prayers, lengthen your Majesty's days; and that Sweden, protected by your virtues, Sire, may find an imperishable guarantee for her future destiny, in the absolute devotion which my heart has vowed to your Majesty; in the respectful attachment of my son; in the sanctity of the laws of the state; in the uprightness of the public functionaries; and in the union, the courage, and the patriotism of all Swedes!

With the most sincere sentiments of attachment, and with the most profound respect, I am, Sire, your majesty's most humble and faithful subject, and good son,

C. JOHN.

*Palace at Stockholm,
Jan. 7, 1812.*

Appointment of the Hereditary Prince of Sicily to the Government as Vicar-general.

The King our Lord, by a resolution, dated this day, signed by his majesty and sealed with the royal seal, has constituted his royal highness Don Francis, hereditary Prince of the Two Sicilies, his most dear son, his Vicar-general in this kingdom of Sicily; transferring to him, with the most ample title of *Alter Ego*, the exercise of all rights, prerogatives, pre-eminencies, and powers, in the same manner as they could be exercised by his Majesty in person. In the name of the king I communicate to your excellency this sovereign determination; transmitting to you also a copy of the same, that you may forthwith communicate it to all the departments depending on the office of Secretary of State, the Royal Household, the Treasury, and Commerce, which are committed to the charge of your Excellency.

(Signed)

MARQUIS DE CIRCELLO.

To the Marquis Tomasi.

Palermo, Jan. 16, 1812.

ROYAL LETTER.

Ferdinand, by the grace of God, King of the Two Sicilies, Jerusalem, &c. Infante of Spain, Duke of Parma, Placencia, Castro, &c. Grand Hereditary Prince of Tuscany, &c.

My most esteemed Son Francis,
Hereditary Prince of the
Two Sicilies:—

Being obliged through bodily indis-

indisposition, and from the advice of the Physicians, to breathe the air of the country, and to withdraw myself from all serious application, I should esteem myself culpable before God; if I did not make such provision for the government of the kingdom, in these most difficult times, that affairs of the greatest importance should be promptly dispatched, and the public weal suffer no detriment through my infirmities. Wishing, therefore, to disburthen myself of the weight of government, as long as it shall not please God to restore me to a state of health suitable for conducting it, I cannot more properly intrust it to any other than to you, my beloved son, as well because you are my legitimate successor, as on account of the experience which I have had of your high rectitude and capacity; and by these presents, with my free will and consent, I constitute and appoint you my Vicar-general in this my kingdom of Sicily, in the same way as you have been already twice Vicar-general in my other kingdom of Naples; and I yield and transfer to you with the ample title of *Alter Ego*, the exercise of all the rights, prerogatives, pre-eminencies, and powers, which could be exercised by myself: and that this my determination may be known to all, and obeyed by all, I order that this my letter, signed by myself, and sealed with my royal seal, be preserved in the archives of the kingdom, and that you direct a copy of it to be sent to all Councillors and Secretaries of State for their informations, and that they may com-

municate the same to all persons interested.—Given in Palermo, this 16th day of Jan. 1812.

FERDINAND,
THOMAS DE SOMMA.

*Address of the New Spanish
Regency to the Nation.*

“Spaniards,—The Regency, in taking upon themselves the government of the Spanish Monarchy intrusted to them by the Cortes in their decree of the 22nd instant, could do no less than fix their whole attention on the critical circumstances in which the nation is placed, and on the immensity of their obligations. They do not however entertain for a single moment the horrible idea that the ferocious enemy who besets us will ultimately accomplish the subjugation of the heroic Spanish people who are now in the 5th year of their glorious resistance. You raised the cry of independence and of vengeance even when deprived of your Princes,—when your laws and institutions were trampled under foot,—when destitute of resources, and without either armies, generals, or a central and respectable government. Even then, you conquered: you have continued the contest, and you have gone on progressively ameliorating your institutions so as to assemble the Cortes, to establish a government on the most legitimate basis, and through the medium of your representatives, to form a constitution, which is to raise you to the prosperity and grandeur of which you are worthy. True it is, that the sacred fire of patriotism

patriotism burns throughout the whole extent of the Peninsula.—that the war becomes every day more obstinate,—your hatred to a foreign domination more extinguishable,—the desire of vengeance stronger,—your love of liberty and of our legitimate king, Ferdinand the Seventh, more inflamed: but it is also true, that now is the time to render such great sacrifices more useful, to exterminate with decision the abuses which are devouring us as the inevitable consequences of our ancient disorder, which could not be repaired amidst so many agitations. It is now time to apply with effect the great resources which we possess to the desired object which occupies our minds. Such are the duties of your new government: it acknowledges them publicly, and it promises their fulfilment. O Spaniards! fulfil your duties with the greatest constancy, and the most indefatigable energy. There have reached the government, the cries of the armies which defend us, depicting their painful privations; the groans of the inhabitants of districts ready to fall under the yoke of the barbarous invaders; the complaints of the provinces already occupied, always loyal, though oppressed and laid waste. Behold the situation of your new government; hear the demands which are made upon its attention, at the very moment of its commencing its painful functions; behold the extent of its wants! To answer your own wishes and those of your representatives, it is necessary to overcome all the obstacles which have enfeebled the arrangements of au-

thority, and to support the dignity of the government with a Majesty corresponding to that of the people by whom it has been formed. The very nature of this war, in which the sacred interests of religion, of the nation, and of the king are defended, imperiously require it. The impetuous and persevering character of the enemy requires it also. The strength of our alliances must be founded on this; and the safety of the country depends entirely and exclusively on the strictest union between all, and on the strength of your government.

The Regency, deeply persuaded of this incontrovertible truth, will act with firmness in the performance of their delicate trust: they will watch, with the greatest activity, over the fate of the brave defenders of the country. They will give a fixed system to all the branches of the public administration under their control—will reward those who deserve well of the country, will apply all their exertions to the expulsion of the enemy from our soil, and to maintain the empire of justice. But they will, at the same time, be inexorable towards those who are wanting in the performance of their duties, or who do not yield obedience to their resolves. Authority is null, if it be not respected. Anarchy then diffuses its deadly poison, social order is subverted, and the State advances to the most frightful dissolution. Cease, now and henceforward, all personal pretensions; the ill understood feelings of interest dictated by provincial spirit; exemptions unjustly demanded at this period of desolation:

writings

writings which, while they ought to create the most ardent patriotism, to unite and enlighten the nation, appeared inspired by the enemy for the purpose of dividing it! Cease, and let the nation appear with all the power which it possesses, and which it has displayed vigorously at different periods of its grand insurrection! The danger is great; the government neither wishes, nor ought to conceal it: let the sacrifices also be great. The Regency will spare no exertions to fulfil its duties: and even though it should see itself on the brink of a precipice, it will there exercise its last act of vigour in burying itself under the ruins of the country; thus corresponding to the resolutions which you all have formed, and to the confidence reposed in it by the National Congress. But, that fatal moment, Spaniards! shall not arrive. We have all sworn to be free. To attain that object, let us devote the remains of our ancient opulence, exhaust our resources, and prodigally shed our blood. Of what importance are all those, when we wish to maintain the glory of our contest, our precious liberty, and the respect due to the Spanish name? Who with an avaricious hand would conceal those barren treasures which the country demands, and which the enemy contemplates with a greedy and rapacious eye? Who would utter the voice of dismay for the purpose of coming to terms with the tyrant? Who will oppose himself to the legitimate authority which has emanated from the Cortes, and dare to disobey it, in the hope of an impunity created by the discredit of Government, and a want of con-

fidence on the part of the People? Omissions and want of obedience can no longer be overlooked. The Spaniards desire that the Government should be consolidated; and that order should be established; which can alone be the fruit of a constitutional system, dictated by the representatives of the nation: they wish that there should be an equality of sacrifices among those who enjoy the rights of citizens: they wish that the Government, impressed with a sense of its unbounded obligations, shall employ all its zeal in annihilating the enemy's legions, and in confirming the constitution of the Monarchy. As long as the Regency exercises the authority entrusted to it, it will constantly endeavour to satisfy this anxious desire of the public mind, founded upon principles of equity and justice.

Spaniards! Our danger is imminent. Our fate must either be that of the most ignominious slavery, or the possession of glory and independence. The Government has been formed to advance the latter, and to open to you the path of greatness. Respect it; confide in your representatives and in it: all of them act towards the same object; all co-operate to attain the ultimate triumph which Providence has destined for us. You, on your part, will go on prosecuting eternal war against the tyrant; you will die sooner than submit to wear the chains of servitude; you will effectually oppose those domestic enemies who endeavour to produce disunion, or destroy the generous institutions which you have decreed. Thus, doubtless, will you act, and you shall

shall be free: your Government assures you of it. You shall be free!

(Signed)

JOAQUIN MOSQUERA Y FIGUEROA,

President.

Cadiz, Jan. 23, 1812.

Treaty of Alliance concluded the 24th February, between his Majesty the King of Prussia and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. and ratified at Berlin the 5th of March, 1812.

His Majesty the King of Prussia, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, Protector of the Confederation of the Rhine, Mediator of the Swiss Confederation, &c. wishing to bind more closely the ties which unite them, have named for their plenipotentiaries, namely, his Majesty the King of Prussia, M. Frederick William Louis Baron de Krusemark, Major-Gen. his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, Chevalier of the Great Order of the Eagle and that of Merit; his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. M. Hugues Bernard Count Maret, the Duke of Bassano, Grand Eagle of Legion of Honour, Commander of the Order of the Iron Crown, Grand Cross of the Order of St. Etienne, of Hungary, St. Hubert of Bavaria, and of the Crown of Saxony, Chevalier of the Order of the Persian Sun of the 1st Order, Grand Cross of the Order of Fidelity of Baden, one of the Forty of the 2d Class of the Imperial

French Institute, his Minister for Foreign affairs, who, after having communicated their respective full powers, agreed upon the following articles:

Art. 1. There shall be a defensive alliance between his Majesty the King of Prussia, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, their heirs and successors, against all the powers of Europe, with which either of the contracting parties has or shall enter into war.

Art. 2. The two high contracting powers reciprocally guarantee to each other the integrity of their present territory.

Art. 3. In case of the present alliance being brought to effect, and every time when such case shall happen, the contracting powers will fix upon the measures needful to be taken, by a particular convention.

Art. 4. Every time that England shall make any attempts upon the rights of commerce, either by declaring in a state of blockade the coasts of one or other of the contracting parties, or any other disposition contrary to the maritime rights consecrated by the treaty of Utrecht, all the ports and coasts of the said powers shall be equally interdicted to the ships of neutral nations, who suffer the independence of their flag to be violated.

Art. 5. The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged at Berlin, within the space of ten days, or sooner if possible.

Done and signed at Paris, the 24th of February, 1812.

(Signed)

The Duke of BASSANO.

The Baron KRUSEMARK.

Treaty

Treaty of Alliance of the 14th of March, between their Majesties the Emperor and King, and the Emperor of Austria.

His Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. &c. and his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, &c. having at heart the perpetuating the amity and good intelligence which exist between them, and to concur by the friendship and force of their union in maintaining the peace of the Continent, and the re-establishment of internal peace:

Considering that nothing would be more calculated to produce those happy results than the conclusion of a treaty of alliance, which should have for its object the security of their estates and possessions, and the guarantee of the principal interests of their respective policies, have named for their Plenipotentiaries,—

His Majesty the Emperor of the French, &c. M. Hugues Bernard, Count Maret, Duke de Bassano, &c.

And his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, &c. the Prince Charles of Schwartzemberg, Duke de Kru-se-man, &c. who, after having exchanged their respective full powers, have agreed upon the following articles:—

Art. 1. There shall be perpetual amity, and sincere Union and Alliance, between his Majesty the Emperor of the French, &c. and his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, &c. In consequence the high contracting parties will take the greatest care to maintain the good intelligence so happily established between them, their respective

states and subjects, to avoid all that could injure it, and to further on every occasion their mutual utility, honour and advantage.

Art. 2. The two high contracting parties reciprocally guarantee the integrity of their present territories.

Art. 3. As the result of this reciprocal guarantee, the two high contracting parties will always labour to concert upon the measures that shall appear the most proper for the maintenance of peace; and in case the states of one or other shall be threatened with invasion, they will employ their most efficacious offices to prevent it.

But as these good offices may not have the desired effect, they oblige themselves to mutual assistance in case of one or other shall be attacked or menaced.

Art. 4. The succour stipulated by the preceding article shall be composed of 30,000 men (24,000 infantry, and 6,000 cavalry), constantly kept up to the war establishment, and of a park of 60 pieces of cannon.

Art. 5. This succour shall be furnished at the first requisition of the party attacked or menaced. It shall march in the shortest delay, and at the latest before the end of two months after the demand shall have been made.

Art. 6. The two high contracting parties guarantee the integrity of the territory of the Ottoman Porte in Europe.

Art. 7. They equally recognise and guarantee the principles of the Navigation of Neutrals, such as they have been recognised and consecrated by the Treaty of Utrecht.

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria renews, as far as is needful, the engagement to adhere to the prohibitive system against England, during the present maritime war.

Art. 8. The present Treaty of Alliance shall not be rendered public, nor communicated to any Cabinet, but in concert between the two High Parties.

It shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged at Vienna in a fortnight, or sooner if possible.

(Signed)

H. B. Duke of BASSANO.

Prince CHAS. of Schwartzburg.
Done and Signed at Paris,

March 14, 1812.

Correspondence between the French and English Ministers on a Proposal for Peace.

Copy of a Letter addressed by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, to Lord Castlereagh, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to his Britannic Majesty.

“Paris, April 17, 1812.

“SIR,—His Majesty, constantly actuated by sentiments friendly to moderation and peace, is pleased again to make a solemn and sincere attempt to put an end to the miseries of war.

“The awful circumstances in which the world is at present placed, have induced a resolution in the breast of his Majesty, the result of which has been, to authorise me to explain to you, Sir, his views and intentions.

“Many changes have taken place in Europe for the last ten

years, which have been the necessary consequence of the war between France and England, and many more changes will be effected by the same cause. The particular character which the war has assumed, may add to the extent and duration of these results. Exclusive and arbitrary principles cannot be combated but by an opposition without measure or end; and the system of preservation and resistance should have the same character of universality, perseverance, and vigour.

“The Peace of Amiens, if it had been observed, would have prevented much confusion.

“I heartily wish that the experience of the past may not be lost for the future.

“His Majesty has often stopped when the most certain triumphs lay before him, and turned round to invoke peace.

“In 1805, secure as he was by the advantage of his situation, and in spite of the confidence which he might reasonably feel in anticipations which fortune was about to realize, he made proposals to his Britannic Majesty, which were rejected, on the ground that Russia should be consulted. In 1808, new proposals were made, in concert with Russia. England alleged the necessity of an intervention, which could be no more than the result of the negotiation itself. In 1810, his Majesty, having clearly discerned that the British Orders in Council of 1807, rendered the conduct of the war incompatible with the independence of Holland, caused indirect overtures to be made towards procuring the return of peace. They were fruitless; and the consequence was, that new provinces

provinces were united to the Empire.

"In the present time are to be found united all the circumstances of the various periods at which his Majesty manifested the pacific sentiments which he now orders me again to declare that he is actuated by.

"The calamities under which Spain, and the vast regions of Spanish America suffer, should naturally excite the interest of all nations, and inspire them with an equal anxiety for their termination.

"I will express myself, Sir, in a manner which your Excellency will find conformable to the sincerity of the step which I am authorised to take; and nothing will better evince the sincerity and sublimity of it than the precise terms of the language which I have been directed to use. What views and motives should induce me to envelope myself in formalities suitable to weakness, which alone can find its interest in deceit?

"The affairs of the Peninsula, and the Two Sicilies, are the points of difference which appear least to admit of being adjusted. I am authorised to propose to you an arrangement of them, on the following basis:—

"The integrity of Spain shall be guaranteed. France shall renounce all idea of extending her dominions beyond the Pyrennees. The present dynasty shall be declared independent, and Spain shall be governed by a National Constitution of her Cortes.

"The independence and integrity of Portugal shall be also guaranteed, and the House of

Braganza shall have the Sovereign authority.

"The kingdom of Naples shall remain in possession of the present monarch, and the kingdom of Sicily shall be guaranteed to the present family of Sicily.

"As a consequence of these stipulations, Spain, Portugal, and Sicily, shall be evacuated by the French and English land and naval forces.

"With respect to the other objects of discussion, they may be negotiated upon this basis, that each power shall retain that of which the other could not deprive it by war.

"Such are, Sir, the grounds of conciliation offered by his Majesty to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

"His Majesty the Emperor and King, in taking this step, does not look either to the advantages or losses which the Empire may derive from the war, if it should be prolonged; he is influenced simply by the considerations of the interests of humanity, and the peace of his people; and if this fourth attempt should not be attended with success, like those which have preceded it, France will at least have the consolation of thinking; that whatever blood may yet flow, will be justly imputable to England alone.

"I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

"The Duke of BASSANO."

No. IX.

Copy of the Answer of Lord Castlereagh, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of His Britannic Majesty,

Majesty, to the Letter of the Minister for Foreign Relations, of the 17th of April, 1812.

London, Office for Foreign Affairs, April 23, 1812.

"SIR,—Your Excellency's letter of the 17th of this month has been received, and laid before the Prince Regent.

"His Royal Highness felt that he owed it to his honour, before he should authorize me to enter into any explanation upon the overture which your Excellency has transmitted, to ascertain the precise meaning attached by the Government of France to the following passage of your Excellency's letter: 'the actual Dynasty shall be declared independent, and Spain governed by the national Constitution of the Cortes.'

"If, as his Royal Highness fears, the meaning of this proposition is, that the Royal authority of Spain, and the government established by the Cortes, shall be recognised as residing in the brother of the head of the French government, and the Cortes formed under his authority, and not in the legitimate sovereign, Ferdinand the Seventh, and his heirs, and the Extraordinary Assembly of the Cortes, now invested with the power of the government in that kingdom, in his name, and by his authority; I am commanded frankly and explicitly to declare to your Excellency, that the obligations of good faith do not permit his Royal Highness to receive a proposition for peace founded on such a basis.

"But if the expressions cited above apply to the actual government of Spain, which exercises

the Sovereign authority in the name of Ferdinand the VIIth, upon an assurance of your Excellency to that effect, the Prince Regent will feel himself disposed to enter into a full explanation upon the basis which has been transmitted, in order to be taken into consideration by his Royal Highness; it being his most earnest wish to contribute, in concert with his allies, to the repose of Europe; and to bring about a peace, which may be at once honourable, not only for Great Britain and France, but also for those States which are in relations of amity with each of these Powers.

"Having made known without reserve the sentiments of the Prince Regent, with respect to a point on which it is necessary to have a full understanding, previous to any ulterior discussion, I shall adhere to the instructions of his Royal Highness, by avoiding all superfluous comment and recrimination on the accessory objects of your letter. I might advantageously, for the justification of the conduct observed by Great Britain at the different periods alluded to by your Excellency, refer to the correspondence which then took place, and to the judgment which the world has long since formed of it.

"As to the particular character the war has unhappily assumed, and the arbitrary principles which your Excellency conceives to have marked its progress, denying, as I do, that these evils are attributable to the British government, I at the same time can assure your Excellency, that it sincerely deplores their existence, as uselessly aggravating the calamities of war: and that its most anxious desire, whether

whether at peace or at war with France, is, to have the relations of the two countries restored to the liberal principles usually acted upon in former times.

"I take this opportunity of assuring your Excellency of my respect.

(Signed) "CASTLEREAGH."

FRENCH DECREE.

"Palace of St. Cloud,
April 28, 1810.

"Napoleon, Emperor of the French, King of Italy, Protector of the Confederation of the Rhine, Mediator of the Swiss Confederation.

"On the report of our minister for foreign affairs,

"In consequence of the act of the 2nd of March 1811, by which the Congress of the United States have enacted exemptions from the provisions of the Non-Intercourse Act, which prohibit the entrance into the American ports to the ships and goods of Great Britain, or its colonies and dependencies;

"Considering that the said law is an act of resistance to the arbitrary pretensions consecrated by the British orders in council, and a formal refusal to adhere to a system derogatory to the independence of neutral powers, and of their flag,

"We have decreed, and decree as follows:—

"The decrees of Berlin and Milan are definitively, and from the date of the 1st of November last, considered as never having taken place (*non avenues*) with regard to American vessels.

(Signed) "NAPOLEON."

"By order of the Emperor, the minister and secretary for foreign affairs.

(Signed) "The Count DARU,
The minister for foreign affairs.
(True Copy).

(Signed) The Duke DE BASSANO."

SPAIN.—*The Regency of the Kingdom have caused to be published the following Decree:—*

"Don Ferdinand VII. by the grace of God, and the Constitution of the Spanish monarchy, King of the Spains, and in his absence and captivity, the Regency of the kingdom, appointed by the general and extraordinary Cortes, to all to whom these presents come make known, that the Cortes have decreed as follows:—

"The general and extraordinary Cortes, adverting to its being provided in the Constitution of the monarchy that the ordinary Cortes shall be assembled every year; and considering that the public good, which dictated this constitutional regulation, never more strongly recommended its observance than now, when the pressing affairs of the state, and the necessity of putting in motion the said Constitution so imperiously require it, have resolved to decree, and do decree:

1. That the ordinary Cortes be convoked for the ensuing year, 1813.

2. That it being absolutely impossible, considering the shortness of the time, and the distance of places, for the ordinary Cortes to meet at the precise time pointed out

out in the Constitution, it not being possible that the deputies from the more distant parts of the kingdom can be assembled by the 1st of March, of the said year, the first ordinary Cortes will therefore open their session on the 1st of October, 1813. And for this purpose shall be held electoral assemblies of parishes, districts, and provinces, in conformity to the instructions for the Peninsula and ultra marine possessions which accompany this decree.

3. That with a view of facilitating the elections at a period when the extraordinary circumstances in which the whole kingdom is placed, oppose obstacles of so many kinds to the necessary verification of the elections, and to the first assembling of the ordinary Cortes which is to result from them: the regulations contained in the instructions for each of the two hemispheres, which accompany this decree, shall be observed and followed in the provinces of the Peninsula and adjacent isles, and in those beyond the sea, respectively.

4. That all the ultra marine deputies repair to this city of Cadiz, where the place in which they are to open their sittings shall be communicated to them by the permanent deputation of the Cortes; for this purpose they ought to be assembled in this city at the commencement of the month of September, 1813.

5. The deputies to the present general and extraordinary Cortes cannot be re-elected for the ensuing ordinary Cortes.

The Regency shall take the proper measures for executing this

decree, causing it to be printed, published, and circulated.

JOSE MARIA GUTIERREZ DE
TERAN, President.

JOSE DE ZORRAQUIN,

JOAQUIN DIAZ CANEJA,

Secretaries.

Given at Cadiz the 23rd of May,
1812.

To the Regency of the kingdom.

We therefore order all tribunals, justices, chiefs, governors, and other authorities, civil, military, and ecclesiastical, to observe, and cause to be observed, fulfil and execute the present decree in all its parts; and that the same be printed, published, and made known in order to its fulfilment.

JOAQUIN DE MOSQUERAY
FIGUEROA, President.

JUAN VILLAVICENCIO,

IGNACIO RODRIGUES DE RIVAS,
The Conde DEL ABIZBAL.

Cadiz, May 24, 1812.

AMERICA.—*Message from the President of the United States to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.*

I communicate to Congress certain documents; being a continuation of those heretofore laid before them, on the subject of our affairs with Great Britain.

Without going beyond the renewal, in 1803, of the war in which Great Britain is engaged, and omitting unrepaired wrongs of inferior magnitude, the conduct of her government presents a series of acts hostile to the United States as an independent and neutral nation.

British

British cruisers have been in the continued practice of violating the American flag on the great highway of nations, and of seizing and carrying off persons sailing under it, not in the exercise of a belligerent right, founded on the law of nations against an enemy, but of a municipal prerogative over British subjects. British jurisdiction is thus extended to neutral vessels in a situation where no laws can operate but the law of nations and the laws of the country to which the vessels belong; and a self-redress is assumed, which, if British subjects were wrongfully detained and alone concerned, is that substitution of force for a resort to the responsible sovereign, which falls within the definition of war. Could the seizure of British subjects, in such cases, be regarded as within the exercise of a belligerent right, the acknowledged laws of war, which forbid an article of captured property to be adjudged without a regular investigation before a competent tribunal, would imperiously demand the fairest trial, where the sacred rights of persons were at issue. In place of such trial, these rights are subjected to the will of every petty commander.

The practice, hence, is so far from affecting British subjects alone, that under the pretext of searching for these, thousands of American citizens, under the safe-guard of public laws, and of their national flag, have been torn from their country, and from every thing dear to them, — have been dragged on board ships of war of a foreign nation, and exposed, under the severities of their discipline, to be exiled to the most distant and deadly

climes, to risk their lives in the battles of their oppressors, and to be the melancholy instruments of taking away those of their own brethren.

Against this crying enormity, which Great Britain would be so prompt to avenge if committed against herself, the United States have in vain exhausted remonstrances and expostulations: and that no proof might be wanting of their conciliatory dispositions, and no pretext left for continuance of the practice, the British government was formally assured of the readiness of the United States to enter into arrangements, such as could not be rejected, if the recovery of the British subjects were the real and sole object. The communication passed without effect.

British cruisers have been in the practice also of violating the rights and peace of our coasts. They hover over and harass our entering and departing commerce. To the most insulting pretensions they have added lawless proceedings in our very harbours, and have wantonly spilt American blood within the sanctuary of our territorial jurisdiction. The principles and rules enforced by that nation, when a neutral nation, against armed vessels of belligerents hovering near her coasts, and disturbing her commerce, are well known. When called on, nevertheless, by the United States, to punish the greater offences committed by her own vessels, her government has bestowed on their commanders additional marks of honour and confidence.

Under pretended blockades, without the presence of an adequate force,

force, and sometimes without the practicability of applying one, our commerce has been plundered in every sea; the great staples of our country have been cut off from their legitimate markets; and a destructive blow aimed at our agricultural and maritime interests. In aggravation to these predatory measures, they have been considered as in force from the dates of their notification; a retrospective effect being thus added, as has been done in other important cases, to the unlawfulness of the course pursued: and to render the outrage more signal, these mock blockades have been reiterated and enforced in the face of official communications from the British government, declaring, as the true definition of a legal blockade, "that particular ports must be actually invested, and previous warning given to vessels bound to them not to enter."

Not content with these occasional expedients for laying waste our neutral trade, the cabinet of Great Britain resorted, at length, to the sweeping system of blockades, under the names of orders in council, which has been moulded and managed as might best suit its political views, its commercial jealousies, or the avidity of British cruisers.

To our remonstrances against the complicated and transcendent injustice of this innovation, the first reply was, that the orders were reluctantly adopted by Great Britain as a necessary retaliation on decrees of her enemy proclaiming a general blockade of the British isles, at a time when the naval force of the enemy dared not to issue from his own ports. She

was reminded without effect, that her own prior blockades, unsupported by an adequate naval force actually applied and continued, were a bar to this plea; that executed edicts against millions of our property could not be retaliation on edicts confessedly impossible to be executed; that retaliation, to be just, should fall on the party setting the guilty example, not on an innocent party, which was not even chargeable with an acquiescence in it.

When deprived of this flimsy veil for a prohibition of our trade with great Britain, her cabinet, instead of a corresponding repeal, or a practical discontinuance of its orders, formally avowed a determination to persist in them against the United States, until the markets of her enemy should be laid open to British products; thus asserting an obligation on a neutral power to require one belligerent to encourage, by its internal regulations, the trade of another belligerent; contradicting her own practice towards all nations in peace as well as in war; and betraying the insincerity of those professions which inculcated a belief, that, having resorted to her orders with regret, she was anxious to find an occasion for putting an end to them.

Abandoning still more all respect for the neutral rights of the United States, and for its own consistency, the British government now demands as pre-requisites to a repeal of its orders, as they relate to the United States, that a formality should be observed in the repeal of the French decrees nowise necessary to their termination, nor exemplified by British usage; and that

that the French repeal, besides including that portion of the decrees which operates within a territorial jurisdiction, as well as that which operates on the high seas against the commerce of the United States, should not be a single special repeal in relation to the United States, but should be extended to whatever other neutral nations unconnected with them may be affected by those decrees.

And as an additional insult, they are called on for a formal disavowal of conditions and pretensions advanced by the French government, for which the United States are so far from having been themselves responsible, that, in official explanations which have been published to the world, and in a correspondence of the American minister at London with the British minister for foreign affairs, such a responsibility was explicitly and emphatically disclaimed.

It has become, indeed, sufficiently certain that the commerce of the United States is to be sacrificed, not as interfering with the belligerent rights of Great Britain—not as supplying the wants of their enemies, which she herself supplies—but as interfering with the monopoly which she covets for her own commerce and navigation. She carries on a war against the lawful commerce of a friend, that she may the better carry on a commerce with an enemy,—a commerce polluted by the forgeries and perjuries which are for the most part the only passports by which it can succeed.

Anxious to make every experiment short of the last resort of injured nations, the United States have withheld from Great Britain,

under successive modifications, the benefits of a free intercourse with their market, the loss of which could not but outweigh the profits accruing from her restrictions of our commerce with other nations. And to entitle those experiments to the more favourable consideration, they were so framed as to enable her to place her adversary under the exclusive operation of them. To these appeals her government has been equally inflexible, as if willing to make sacrifices of every sort, rather than yield to the claims of justice, or renounce the errors of a false pride. Nay, so far were the attempts carried to overcome the attachment of the British cabinet to its unjust edicts, that it received every encouragement, within the competency of the executive branch of our government, to expect that a repeal of them would be followed by a war between the United States and France, unless the French edicts should also be repealed. Even this communication, although silencing for ever the plea of a disposition in the United States to acquiesce in those edicts, originally the sole plea for them, received no attention.

If no other proof existed of a predetermination of the British government against a repeal of its orders, it might be found in the correspondence of the minister plenipotentiary of the United States at London, and the British secretary for foreign affairs in 1810, on the question whether the blockade of May, 1806, was considered in force or as not in force. It had been ascertained that the French government, which urged this blockade as the ground of its decree,

was

was willing, in the event of its removal, to repeal that decree; which being followed by alternate repeals of the other offensive edicts, might abolish the whole system on both sides. This inviting opportunity for accomplishing an object so important to the United States, and professed so often to be the desire of both the belligerents, was made known to the British government. As that government admits that an actual application of an adequate force is necessary to the existence of a legal blockade, and it was notorious that if such a force had ever been applied, its long discontinuance had annulled the blockade in question, there could be no sufficient objection on the part of Great Britain to a formal revocation of it; and no imaginable objection to a declaration of the fact that the blockade did not exist. The declaration would have been consistent with her avowed principles of blockade, and would have enabled the United States to demand from France the pledged repeal of her decrees; either with success—in which case the way would have been opened for a general repeal of the belligerent edicts,—or without success, in which case the United States would have been justified in turning their measures exclusively against France. The British government would, however, neither rescind the blockade, nor declare its non-existence, nor permit its non-existence to be inferred and affirmed by the American plenipotentiary. On the contrary, by representing the blockade to be comprehended in the orders in council, the United States were compelled so to regard it in their subsequent proceedings.

There was a period, when a favourable change in the policy of the British cabinet was justly considered as established. The minister plenipotentiary of his Britannic Majesty here, proposed an adjustment of the differences more immediately endangering the harmony of the two countries. The proposition was accepted with a promptitude and cordiality, corresponding with the invariable professions of this government. A foundation appeared to be laid for a sincere and lasting reconciliation. The prospect, however, quickly vanished. The whole proceeding was disavowed by the British government, without any explanation which could at that time repress the belief, that the disavowal proceeded from a spirit of hostility to the commercial rights and prosperity of the United States; and it has since come into proof, that, at the very moment when the public minister was holding the language of friendship, and inspired confidence in the sincerity of the negotiation with which he was charged, a secret agent of his government was employed in intrigues, having for their object a subversion of our government, and a dismemberment of our happy union.

In reviewing the conduct of Great Britain towards the United States, our attention is necessarily drawn to the warfare just renewed by the savages on one of our extensive frontiers; a warfare which is known to spare neither age nor sex, and to be distinguished by features particularly shocking to humanity. It is difficult to account for the activity and combinations which have for some time been developing

developing themselves among the tribes in constant intercourse with British traders and garrisons, without connecting their hostility with that influence; and without recollecting the authenticated examples of such interpositions heretofore furnished by the officers and agents of that government.

Such is the spectacle of injuries and indignities which have been heaped on our country; and such the crisis which its unexampled forbearance and conciliatory efforts have not been able to avert. It might at least have been expected, that an enlightened nation, if less urged by moral obligations, or invited by friendly dispositions on the part of the United States, would have found in its true interests alone a sufficient motive to respect their rights and their tranquillity on the high seas: that an enlarged policy would have favoured the free and general circulation of commerce, in which the British nation is at all times interested, and which in time of war is the best alleviation of its calamities to herself, as well as the other belligerents; and more especially that the British cabinet would not, for the sake of a precarious and surreptitious intercourse with hostile markets, have persevered in a course of measures which necessarily put at hazard the invaluable market of a great and growing country, disposed to cultivate the mutual advantages of an active commerce.

Other councils have prevailed. Our moderation and conciliation have had no other effect than to encourage perseverance, and to enlarge pretensions. We behold our seafaring citizens still the daily

victims of lawless violence committed on the great and common highway of nations, even within the sight of the country which owes them protection. We behold our vessels freighted with the products of our soil and industry, or returning with the honest proceeds of them, wrested from their lawful destinations, confiscated by prize courts, no longer the organs of public law, but the instruments of arbitrary edicts, and their unfortunate crews dispersed or lost, or forced or inveigled in British ports into British fleets; whilst arguments are employed in support of these aggressions, which have no foundation but in a principle equally supporting a claim to regulate our external commerce in all cases whatsoever.

We behold, in fine, on the side of Great Britain, a state of war against the United States; and, on the side of the United States, a state of peace towards Great Britain.

Whether the United States shall continue passive under these progressive usurpations, and these accumulating wrongs, or, opposing force to force in defence of their natural rights, shall commit a just cause into the hands of the Almighty Disposer of events, avoiding all connections which might entangle it in the contests or views of other powers, and preserving a constant readiness to concur in an honourable re-establishment of peace and friendship, is a solemn question, which the constitution wisely confides to the legislative department of the government. In recommending it to their early deliberations, I am happy in the assurance, that the decision will be

be worthy the enlightened and patriotic councils of a virtuous, a free and a powerful nation.

Having presented this view of the relations of the United States with Great Britain; and of the solemn alternative growing out of them, I proceed to remark, that the communications last made to Congress on the subject of our relations with France, will have shewn, that since the revocation of her decrees, as they violated the neutral rights of the United States, her government has authorised illegal captures by its privateers and public ships; and that other outrages have been practised on our vessels and our citizens. It will have been seen, also, that no indemnity had been provided, or satisfactorily pledged, for the extensive spoliations committed under the violent and retrospective order of the French government against the property of our citizens seized within the jurisdiction of France.

I abstain at this time from recommending to the consideration of Congress definitive measures with respect to that nation, in the expectation, that the result of the inclosed discussions between our minister plenipotentiary at Paris, and the French government, will speedily enable Congress to decide with greater advantage, on the course due to the rights, the interests, the honour of our country.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, June 1, 1812.

An Act, declaring War between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Dependencies thereof, and the United

States of America, and their Territories.

“Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that war be, and the same is hereby declared to exist between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dependencies thereof, and the United States of America and their territories; and that the President of the United States be, and is hereby authorised, to use the whole land and naval forces of the United States, to carry the same into effect; and to issue to private armed vessels of the United States, commissions or letters of marque and general reprisal, in such form as he shall think proper, and under the seal of the United States, against the vessels, goods, and effects of the government of the said United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the subjects thereof.

“JAMES MADISON.”

“June 18, 1812.—Approved.”

Treaty of Friendship and Alliance between Spain and Russia.

His Catholic Majesty Don Ferdinand VII. King of Spain and the Indies, and his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, equally animated with the desire of establishing and strengthening the ancient relations of friendship which have existed between their Monarchies, have nominated for that purpose, to wit, on the part of his Catholic Majesty, and in his name and authority the Regency of Spain, residing in Cadiz, Don Francisco

cisco de Zea Bermudez, and his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, Count Nicholas de Romanzoff; who having exchanged their full powers, ascertained to be in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

Art. 1. There shall be between his Majesty the King of Spain and the Indies, and his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, their heirs and successors, and between their Monarchies, not only friendship, but also sincere union and alliance.

Art. 2. The two high contracting parties, in consequence of this Resolution, will come to an understanding without delay on the stipulations of this alliance, and agree on every thing which may have connection with their respective interests, and with the firm intention to prosecute a vigorous war against the Emperor of the French, their common enemy; and engage, from this time, to concur sincerely in every thing which may be advantageous to the one or the other party.

Art. 3. His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias acknowledges for legitimate the General and Extraordinary Cortes assembled in Cadiz, as also the Constitution which they have decreed and sanctioned.

Art. 4. The commercial relations shall be re-established from this time, and reciprocally favoured. The two high contracting parties will provide the means of giving them still greater extension.

Art. 5. The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged within three months, reckoning from the day of their signature, or sooner if possible: in faith

of which, we, the undersigned, have signed the present treaty, and have affixed to it the seals of our arms.

Done at Weliki Louky, July 8, (20) 1812.

FRANCISCO DE ZEA BERMUDEZ.
The Count N. DE ROMANZOFF.

Proclamation of the Emperor Alexander.

[Published in General Orders, by the Commander-in-chief, General Bennigsen.]

Russians!—The enemy has quitted the Dwina, and has proclaimed his intention of offering battle. He accuses you of timidity, because he mistakes, or affects to mistake, the policy of your system. Can he, then, have forgotten the chastisement which your valour inflicted at Dunaberg and Mihr; wherever, in short, it has been deemed proper to oppose him? Desperate counsels are alone compatible with the enterprise he has undertaken and the dangers of his situation; but shall we, therefore, be imprudent, and forego the advantages of our own? He would march to Moscow,—let him. But can he, by the temporary possession of that city, conquer the empire of Russia, and subjugate a population of thirty millions? Distant from his resources near 800 miles, he would, even if victorious, not escape the fate of the warrior Charles XII. When, pressed on every side by hostile armies, with a peasantry sworn to his destruction, rendered furious by his excesses, and irreconcilable by difference of religion, of customs, of language, how would he retreat?

Russians!

Russians!—Rely on your emperor and the commanders whom he has appointed. He knows the ardent and indignant valour which burns in the bosoms of his soldiers at the boasts of the enemy. He knows that they are eager for battle; that they grieve at its being deferred, and at the thought of retiring. This cruel necessity will not exist long. Even now the period of its duration lessens. Already are our allies preparing to menace the rear of the invader: while he, inveigled too far to retreat with impunity, shall soon have to combat with the seasons, with famine, and with innumerable armies of Russians. Soldiers, when the period for offering battle arrives, your emperor will give the signal, will be an eye-witness of your exploits, and reward your valour.

(Signed) ALEXANDER.

Proclamation of the Emperor Alexander on the Russian Army breaking up from Drissa.

Beloved subjects!—In pursuance of the policy advised by our military council, the armies will, for the present, quit their positions, and retire further into the interior, in order the more readily to unite. The enemy may possibly avail himself of this opportunity to advance; he has announced this intention. Doubtless, in spite of his boast, he begins to feel all the difficulties of his menaced attempt to subjugate us, and is anxious therefore to engage; he is desperate, and would therefore put every thing upon the issue of a battle. The honour of our crown, the interests of our

subjects, prescribe, however, a different policy: it is necessary that he should be made sensible of the madness of his attempt. If, urged by the desire of obtaining provisions and forage, or goaded by an insatiable cupidity for plunder, he should be blind to the danger of further committing himself at such an immense distance from his territories, it would become the duty of every loyal Russian—every true friend to his country,—to cooperate cheerfully with us in impeding equally his progress or his retreat, by destroying his supplies, his means of conveyance; in short, every thing which can be serviceable to him. We, therefore, order that such of our subjects in the provinces of Vitepsk and Pskoy, as may have articles of subsistence, either for man or beast, beyond their immediate want, to deliver them to officers authorised to receive them, and for which they shall be paid the full value out of the Imperial treasury. The owners of growing crops within the distance of the line of the enemy's march, are commanded to destroy them, and they shall be reimbursed their loss. The proprietors of magazines, either of provisions or clothing, are required to deliver them to the commissaries for the use of the army, and they will be liberally remunerated. In general, the spirit of this order is to be carried into execution in regard to all articles, whether of subsistence, of clothing, or of conveyance, which may be considered useful to the invaders; and the magistrates are made responsible for the due fulfilment of these our commands.

ALEXANDER.

SICILY.—*Articles established in Parliament, and presented to the Sovereign for his Royal Sanction.*

Art. 1. The religion shall be the Catholic, Apostolical, Roman, alone, to the entire exclusion of every other; the King shall profess the same, and whenever he shall profess any other, he shall be *ipso facto* deposed from the throne. *Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 2. The Legislative power shall reside exclusively in the Parliament. The laws to be in force after being sanctioned by his Majesty. All taxes, &c. imposed, of whatever nature, to be fixed by the Parliament alone; and also to be sanctioned by his Majesty. The form to be *veto* or *placet*, the King having it in his power to admit or reject them without qualification. *Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 3. The Executive Power shall reside in the person of the King.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 4. The Judiciary Power shall be distinct, and independent of the Executive and legislative Powers, and to be administered by a body of Judges and Magistrates. These to be tried, punished, and deprived of their situations, by sentence of the House of Peers, after having gone through the House of Commons, as set forth by the Constitution of Great Britain, and which shall be explained at length in the article of Magistracy.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 5. The person of the King shall be always sacred and inviolable.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 6. The King's Ministers, and other persons in the employ of Government, shall be subject to

the examination and control of the Parliament; and to be by the same accused, tried, and condemned, should they be found to have offended against the Constitution, and the observance of the laws, or to be guilty of any other high crimes, in the exercise of their functions.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 7. The Parliament shall be composed of two Houses, the one to be called the Commons, or Representative of the People, as well freeholders as vassals, on the conditions and forms to be hereafter established by Parliament, in its subsequent acts upon this article; the other to be called the Peers; the same to be composed of all those ecclesiastics and their successors, and of all those barons and their successors, and the present possessors of estates, who now have the right to sit and vote in the ecclesiastical and military branches, as well as of others who may be hereafter elected by his Majesty, agreeably to the conditions and limitations to be fixed by Parliament in the article of detail upon this point. *Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 8. The Barons shall have, as Peers, individually one vote only, relinquishing the multiplicity of votes relative to the number of their population. The Chancellor of the kingdom to present an account of the actual Barons and Ecclesiastics, to be inserted in the Acts of Parliament.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 9. The King shall enjoy the prerogative of convoking, proroguing, or dissolving the Parliament, agreeably to the forms and institutions which may be here-

after established. His Majesty, however, to be bound to convoke it every year.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 10. The nation, having to fix the subsidies necessary to the State, will consider it as a positive duty to fix, for the Civil List, such sums as are necessary to the splendor, independence, and maintenance of its august Sovereign and Royal Family, to the most generous extent that the actual state of the finances of the kingdom will permit—in consequence of which arrangement, the nation shall take upon itself the management and administration of the national funds, including all those which have hitherto been considered as fiscal duties, and land revenues, which shall be paid over to the Minister of Finances, for the purposes established by Parliament. As to the persons, system, and means, by which such funds are to be collected and disposed of, they remain to be fixed in the detail of this article.—*Vetat Regia Majestas.*

Art. 11. No Sicilian subject shall be arrested, banished, or otherwise punished or disturbed in the enjoyment of his rights or property, unless in conformity to the new Code of Laws, to be hereafter established by this Parliament. The Peers to enjoy the same judicial forms which they enjoy in England, as will be subsequently detailed.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 12. With that disinterestedness which the military branch has always shewn, it has voted and concluded, and the Parliament has established, that the Feudal System shall be abolished, and all the lands shall be possessed in Sicily, as *allodial* or free estates; pre-

serving, however, the order of succession in the respective families, which is actually enjoyed. The jurisdiction of the Barons shall likewise cease, and therefore the Barons shall be exempted from all the burdens to which they have hitherto been subjected by such feudal rights. There shall also be abolished, the Investitures, Reliefs (*rilevi*) Fines to the Crown (*devoluzioni al Fisco*), and every other burden whatever inherent in the feudal system; every family, however, preserving its titles and honours.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 13. It likewise agrees to establish that the rights called *Angarici* (being privileges and exemptions from assessment), shall be abolished as soon as the community in general, or the individual, subject to them, shall indemnify the actual proprietors; calculating the capital either at twenty years purchase of the produce of the tax existing at the period of liquidation; or in default of that estimating the same by the books of the respective *Segrezia*; it being understood, however, that the possessors of lands of whatever nature, shall retain the same power and the same rights as before, so far as regards the exacting of debts or rents, and this in the same manner and form as they have hitherto enjoyed them.—(His Majesty reserves to himself to give his Royal sanction to the above article, when he shall have received the necessary information respecting it.)

Art. 14. The Military Branch agrees, also, to the suggestion of the Commons, that every proposal relative to subsidies shall proceed exclusively from, and be concluded in the House of Commons, and from

from thence pass to that of the Peers, where it shall only be either assented to or rejected without the least alteration. It is further determined that all proposals respecting articles of legislation, or any other subject whatsoever, may be moved in either House indifferently, leaving to the other the power of rejection.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 15. As to the other principles and arrangements of the aforesaid British Constitution, the Parliament will hereafter declare those that are to be admitted, those to be rejected, and those to be modified, according to the difference of the circumstances of the two nations. It therefore declares, that it will willingly receive any projects which its members may make for the convenient application of the British constitution to the kingdom of Sicily, in order to select what may be judged most suitable to the glory of his Majesty, and to the happiness of the Sicilian people. (His Majesty, whenever such articles shall be presented, will determine on those which may merit his Royal sanction.)

TREATY between RUSSIA and TURKEY.—*The following are the principal of the Sixteen Articles of the Treaty of Peace, concluded between Russia and the Sublime Porte.*

Art. 1. There shall be peace and friendship between the two powers, and both the contracting parties shall use every effort to avoid every thing that may occasion hostilities between their subjects.

Art. 2. Full and perfect amnesty

shall be granted to the subjects of both parties who have taken part in the operations of the war against the interest of their mutual sovereigns.

Art. 3. All former treaties shall remain in force, with the exception of such articles which, by this present treaty, have undergone some alteration.

Art. 4. According to the first article of the preliminaries, it is agreed that the river Pruth, from its entrance into Moldavia until its junction with the Danube, and the left bank of the Danube from such junction to the mouth of the Kili, and from thence to the sea, shall form the boundaries of the two empires; the mouth of the said river being for the common use of both. The small islands which, previous to the war, were uninhabited, lying near to the left bank of the Danube, shall remain uninhabited; nor shall any fortifications be erected on the said islands.

On the other hand, the Ottoman Porte relinquishes to Russia all provinces, fortresses, towns, &c. lying on the left bank of the Pruth, and the mid-channel of the said river shall be the boundary between the two empires. The merchant vessels of both nations may navigate the whole course of the Danube; but the Russian ships of war must come no further than the entrance of the Pruth.

Art. 5. His Imperial Russian Majesty, on the other hand, restores to the Ottoman Porte the territory of Moldavia, on the right bank of the Pruth, as likewise the Greater and Lesser Wallachia. The inhabitants of these provinces shall be freed from all contributions

tions for the space of two years, and those shall be fixed according to the present largeness of Moldavia.

Art. 6. The boundaries on the side of Asia shall be fixed exactly as they were before the war broke out.

Art. 7. The Mahometan inhabitants in the provinces ceded to Russia, as likewise the natives of other parts, who, in consequence of the war, are now in Russia, may return with their property out of Russia, within the space of eighteen months, to Turkey. In like manner, the Christians belonging to the countries now ceded to Russia, and who are at present in Turkey, may, without any molestation, return to Russia.

Art. 8. The Ottoman Porte grants a pardon and general amnesty to the Servians, who shall in no wise or means be molested for their last actions. The fortresses lately erected in their country shall be demolished as being unnecessary, and the Sublime Porte will put garrisons into the ancient fortified places. But that such garrisons shall not infringe any of the rights belonging to the Servian people, the Sublime Porte will for such purpose adopt, in concert with the Servian nation, such measures as may be necessary for their security. The Porte grants to the Servian nation the same advantages as are enjoyed by her subjects of the islands in the Archipelago, and of the other districts; and causes it to partake of the effects of her magnanimity, by permitting it to have the sole management of its internal concerns, by fixing the mass of contributions which it will receive from its own hands; and,

finally, will regulate all these matters conjointly and in concurrence with the Servian nation.

Art. 9. All prisoners of war, whether of the male or female sex, shall be liberated on both sides without reserve.

Art. 10. All affairs and demands of the subjects of both parties, which have been put off on account of the war, shall not be thrown up; but, on the contrary shall, after conclusion of the peace, be again examined and decided according to law.

Art. 11. The Russian troops shall quit the provinces, fortresses, and towns restored, within three months from the day of the ratification of the treaty; and, until the expiration of that term, shall, as hitherto, be supplied with every thing necessary.

Art. 12. Both the high contending powers promise to keep the commercial treaties in force.

Art. 13. The Ottoman Porte promises her mediation with the Persian power for restoration of peace with Russia.

Art. 14. Any acts of hostility which may have happened, after exchanging the ratification, shall be considered as not having taken place.

New York Convention.

At a Convention of Delegates from the several counties of the State of New York, hereinafter designated, held at the capitol in the city of Albany, on the 17th and 18th days of September, 1812.

[Here follow the names of Delegates from 34 cities and counties.]

Resolved, That the doctrine, of late

late so frequently and violently inculcated, that when war is once declared, all inquiry into its justice and expediency ought to cease, and all opposition to the men in power immediately to be abandoned, is essentially hostile to the vital principles of our republican institutions; and if adopted, would change our present government into one of the worst species of tyranny which the ingenuity of the foes of freedom has yet contrived,—a government republican in its forms, in spirit and practice arbitrary and despotic,—that it must be obvious to the most ordinary capacity, that were such a doctrine to prevail, an administration which by its corruption or imbecility had justly forfeited the confidence of the people would be tempted to plunge the nation into an unjust or unnecessary war, for the sole purpose of perpetuating their power, and thus building their own greatness on the ruins of their country.

Resolved, That without insisting on the injustice of the present war, taking solely into consideration the time and circumstances of its declaration, the condition of the country, and state of the public mind, we are constrained to consider, and feel it our duty to pronounce it a most rash, unwise, and inexpedient measure; the adoption of which ought for ever to deprive its authors of the esteem and confidence of an enlightened people—because, as the injuries we have received from France, are at least equal in amount to those we have sustained from England, and have been attended with circumstances of still greater insult and aggravation—if war were necessary to vindicate the honour of

the country, consistency and impartiality required that both nations should have been included in the declaration. Because if it were deemed expedient to exercise our right of selecting our adversary, prudence and common sense dictated the choice of an enemy, from whose hostility we had nothing to dread. A war with France would equally have satisfied our insulted honour, and at the same time, instead of annihilating, would have revived and extended our commerce—and even the evils of such a contest would have been mitigated by the sublime consolation, that by our efforts we were contributing to arrest the progress of despotism in Europe, and essentially serving the great interests of freedom and humanity throughout the world. Because a republican government, depending solely for its support on the wishes and affections of the people, ought never to declare a war, into which the great body of the nation are not prepared to enter with zeal and alacrity; as where the justice and necessity of the measure are not so apparent as to unite all parties in its support, its inevitable tendency is, to augment the dissensions that have before existed, and by exasperating party violence to its utmost height, prepare the way for civil war. Because, before a war was declared, it was perfectly well ascertained, that a vast majority of the people in the middle and northern states, by whom the burthen and expenses of the contest must be borne almost exclusively, were strongly opposed to the measure. Because we see no rational prospect of attaining, by force of arms, the ob-
jects

jects for which our rulers say we are contending—and because the evils and distresses which the war must of necessity occasion, far overbalance any advantages we can expect to derive from it. Because the great power of England on the ocean, and the amazing resources she derives from commerce and navigation, render it evident, that we cannot compel her to respect our rights and satisfy our demands, otherwise than by a successful maritime warfare; the means of conducting which we not only do not possess, but our rulers have obstinately refused to provide. Because the exhausted state of the treasury, occasioned by the destruction of the revenue derived from commerce, should the war continue, will render necessary a resort to loans and taxes to a vast amount—measures by which the people will be greatly burthened, and oppressed, and the influence and patronage of the executive alarmingly increased. And, finally, because of a war begun with such means as our rulers had prepared, and conducted in the mode they seem resolved to pursue, we see no grounds to hope the honourable and successful termination.

Resolved, That while we condemn the war, in the most distinct and unqualified terms, we are deeply sensible of the new duties and obligations which the change of our national relations has imposed upon us, and are fully determined in our several capacities of magistrates, soldiers, and citizens, to obey with promptness and alacrity all constitutional requisitions of the proper authorities; seeking no other redress for the evils of which we complain, than that which we con-

fidently trust will be obtained from a change of sentiment in the people, leading to a change of men and measures.

Resolved, That we view the creation of new states out of territories not within the ancient limits of the United States as inconsistent with the spirit of the federal compact, and calculated to destroy the weight, which the old, great, and populous states ought to have in the union, and utterly to disappoint and frustrate the great purpose for which they entered into the confederacy.

Resolved, That we consider the employment of the militia, for the purpose of offensive war, as a palpable violation of the constitution, as extremely offensive to the people, as the most expensive and the least efficient mode of conducting the war; and as a serious and alarming encroachment on the rights of the several states, which it behoves the true friends of our excellent institutions, by all lawful means, firmly to resist.

Whereas the late revocation of the British Orders in Council, has removed the great and ostensible cause of the present war, and prepared the way for an immediate accommodation of all existing differences, inasmuch as, by the confession of the present secretary of state, satisfactory and honourable arrangements might easily be made, by which the abuses resulting from the impressment of our seamen, might, in future, be effectually prevented—Therefore,

Resolved, That we shall be constrained to consider the determination on the part of our rulers to continue the present war, after official notice of the revocation of
the

the British Orders in Council, as affording conclusive evidence, that the war has been undertaken from motives entirely distinct from those which have been hitherto avowed, and for the promotion of objects wholly unconnected with the interest and honour of the American nation.

Resolved, That we contemplate with abhorrence, even the possibility of an alliance with the present Emperor of France, every action of whose life has demonstrated, that the attainment, by any means, of universal empire, and the consequent extinction of every vestige of freedom, are the sole objects of his incessant, unbounded, and remorseless ambition. His arms, with the spirit of freemen, we might openly and fearlessly encounter; but, of his secret arts, his corrupting influence, we entertain a dread we can neither conquer nor conceal. It is therefore with the utmost distrust and alarm, that we regard his late professions of attachment and love to the American people, fully recollecting, that his invariable course has been, by perfidious offers of protection, by deceitful professions of friendship, to lull his intended victims into the fatal sleep of confidence and security, during which, the chains of despotism are silently wound round and rivetted on them.

Resolved, That we are firmly attached to the union of the States, most conscientiously believing, that on its preservation, the future peace, security, and independence, as well as power and grandeur of the American nation, must mainly depend; and we are therefore strengthened in our reprobation of the measures of our present rulers,

from a consideration of their evident tendency to produce a dissolution of that union which we so warmly cherish.

Whereas in the opinion of this convention the dangers which seem to threaten the existence of the union have chiefly arisen from the prevalence of a course of policy, by which the interests of the commercial state, have been wantonly sacrificed to local prejudices and state jealousies: and whereas our minds are irresistibly impressed with the conviction that a change of system is now demanded by the imperious law of self preservation: therefore resolved, that to effect a purpose so desirable, but so necessary, as a change of our present rulers, the barriers of party, which separate men, differing, not in principle, but in the name merely, ought to be thrown down, and every obstacle removed which can prevent and impede the full and cordial co-operation of those who are actuated by the same feelings, and entertain the same sentiments.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the friends of peace, liberty, and commerce, who are opposed to the present war, without distinction of parties, to assemble in their respective counties, wherein such meetings have not been already held, and appoint committees of correspondence and conference, who, if deemed necessary hereafter, may meet in a convention, for the purpose of explaining and comparing their sentiments, and concerting a common plan of operation, having for its object the restoration of peace to our degraded and afflicted country.

JACOB MORRIS, President.

WILLIAM HENDERSON. Sec.

Corre-

Correspondence between Sir J. B. Warren, and the Secretary of State, Mr. Monroe.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Sept. 30.

SIR,—The departure of Mr. Foster from America has devolved upon me the charge of making known to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the sentiments entertained by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, upon the existing relations of the two countries.

You will observe from the enclosed Copy of an order in Council, bearing date the 23d of June, 1812, that the Orders in Council of the 7th of Jan. 1807, and the 26th of April, 1809, ceased to exist nearly at the same time that the government of the United States declared war against his Majesty.

Immediately on the receipt of this declaration in London, the Order in Council, of which a copy is herewith enclosed to you, was issued, on the 31st day of July, for the embargo and detention of all American ships.

Under these circumstances, I am commanded to propose to your government the immediate cessation of hostilities between the two countries; and I shall be most happy to be the instrument of bringing about a reconciliation, so interesting and beneficial to America and Great Britain.

I therefore propose to you, that the government of the United States of America shall instantly recal their letters of marque and reprisal against British ships, together with all orders and instructions for any acts of hostility whatever against the territory of his

Majesty, or the persons or property of his subjects: with the understanding, that immediately on my receiving from you an official assurance to that effect, I shall instruct all the officers under my command to desist from corresponding measures of war against the ships and property of the United States, and that I shall transmit, without delay, corresponding intelligence to the several parts of the world where hostilities may have commenced; the British Commanders in which will be required to discontinue hostilities, from the receipt of such notice.

Should the American government accede to the above proposal for terminating hostilities, I am authorised to arrange with you as to the revocation of the laws which interdict the commerce and ships of war of Great Britain from the harbours and waters of the United States; in default of which revocation within such reasonable period as may be agreed upon, you will observe, by the Order of the 23d of June, the Orders in Council of January, 1807, and April, 1809, are to be revived.

The officer who conveys this letter to the American coast has received my orders to put to sea immediately upon the delivering of this dispatch to the competent authority; and earnestly recommend, that no time may be lost in communicating to me the decision of your government, persuaded as I feel, that it cannot but be of a nature to lead to a speedy termination of the present differences.

The flag of truce which you may charge with your reply, will find one of my cruisers at Sandy Hook

Hook, ten days after the landing of this dispatch, which I have directed to call there with a flag of truce for that purpose. I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration,

JOHN BORLASE WARREN,
Admiral of the Blue, and
Commander in Chief, &c.

Mr. Monroe to Sir J. B. Warren.

*Department of State,
Oct. 27, 1812.*

Sir,—I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 30th ult. and to submit it to the consideration of the President.

It appears that you are authorised to propose a cessation of hostilities between the United States and Great Britain, on the ground of the repeal of the Orders in Council; and, in case the proposition is acceded to, to take measures, in concert with this government, to carry it into complete effect on both sides.

You state, also, that you have it in charge, in the event, to enter into an arrangement with the government of the United States for the repeal of the laws which interdict the ships of war and the commerce of Great Britain from the harbours and waters of the United States: and you intimate, that if the proposition is not acceded to, the Orders in Council (repealed conditionally by that of the 23d of June last) will be revived against the commerce of the United States.

I am instructed to inform you, that it will be very satisfactory to the President to meet the British government in such arrangements as may terminate, without delay,

the hostilities which now exist between the United States and Great Britain, on conditions honourable to both nations.

At the moment of the declaration of war, the President gave a signal proof of the attachment of the United States to peace. Instructions were given, at an early period, to the late Chargé d'Affaires of the United States at London, to propose to the British government an armistice, on conditions which, it was presumed, would have been satisfactory. It has been seen with regret, that the proposition made by Mr. Monroe, particularly in regard to the important interest of impressment, was rejected, and that none was offered through that channel, as a basis on which hostilities might cease.

As your government has authorised you to propose a cessation of hostilities, and is, doubtless, aware of the important and salutary effect which a satisfactory adjustment of this difference cannot fail to have on the future relations between the two countries, I indulge the hope that it has, ere this, given you full powers for the purpose. Experience has sufficiently evinced that no peace can be durable, unless this object is provided for: it is presumed, therefore, that it is equally the interest of both countries to adjust it at this time.

Without further discussing questions of right, the President is desirous to provide a remedy for the evils complained of on both sides. The claim of the British government is, to take from the merchant vessels of other countries British subjects. In the practice, the Commanders of British ships of war often

often take from the merchant vessels of the United States American citizens. If the United States prohibit the employment of British subjects in their service, and enforce the prohibition by suitable regulations and penalties, the motive for the practice is taken away. It is in this mode that the President is willing to accommodate this important controversy with the British government, and it cannot be conceived on what ground the arrangement can be refused.

A suspension of the practice of impressment, pending the armistice, seems to be a necessary consequence. It cannot be presumed, while the parties are engaged in a negociation to adjust amicably this important difference, that the United States would admit the right, or acquiesce in the practice of the opposite party; or that Great Britain would be unwilling to restrain her cruizers from a practice which would have the strongest tendency to defeat the negociation. It is presumable that both parties would enter into a negociation with a sincere desire to give it effect. For this purpose, it is necessary that a clear and distinct understanding be first obtained between them, of the accommodation which each is prepared to make. If the British government is willing to suspend the practice of impressment from American vessels, on consideration that the United States will exclude British seamen from their service, the regulation by which this compromise should be carried into effect would be solely the object of this negociation. The armistice would be of short duration. If the parties agree, peace would be the

result. If the negociation failed, each would be restored to its former state, and to all its pretensions, by recurring to war.

Lord Castlereagh, in his note to Mr. Russel, seems to have supposed, that, had the British government accepted the propositions made to it, Great Britain would have suspended immediately the exercise of a right on the mere assurance of this government, that a law would be afterwards passed to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the service of the United States, and that Great Britain would have no agency in the regulation to give effect to that proposition. Such an idea was not in the contemplation of this government, nor is it to be reasonably inferred from Mr. Russel's note: lest, however, by possibility such an inference might be drawn from the instructions to Mr. Russel, and anxious that there should be no misunderstanding in the case, subsequent instructions were given to Mr. Russel, with a view to obviate every objection of the kind alluded to. As they bear date on the 27th of July, and were forwarded by the British packet *Alpheia*, it is more than probable that they may have been received and acted on.

I am happy to explain to you thus fully the views of my government on this important subject. The President desires that the war which exists between our countries should be terminated on such conditions as may secure a solid and durable peace. To accomplish this great object, it is necessary that the interest of impressment be satisfactorily arranged. He is willing that Great Britain should be

be secured against the evils of which she complains. He seeks, on the other hand, that the citizens of the United States should be protected against a practice, which, while it degrades the nation, deprives them of their right as freemen, takes them by force from their families and their country, into a foreign service, to fight the battles of a foreign power, perhaps against their own kindred and country.

I abstain from entering, in this communication, into other grounds of difference. The Orders in Council having been repealed (with a reservation not impairing a corresponding right on the part of the United States), and no illegal blockades revived or instituted in their stead, and an understanding being obtained on the subject of impressment, in the mode herein proposed, the President is willing to agree to a cessation of hostilities; with a view to arrange, by treaty, in a more distinct and ample manner, and to the satisfaction of both parties, every other subject of controversy.

I will only add, that if there be no objection to an accommodation of the difference relating to impressment, in the mode proposed, other than the suspension of the British claims to impressment during the armistice, there can be none to proceeding, without the armistice, to an immediate discussion and arrangement of an article on that subject. This great question being satisfactorily adjusted, the way will be open either for an armistice or any other course leading most conveniently and expeditiously to a general pacification.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JAMES MONROE.

American President's Message.

Washington City, Nov. 4.

The President of the United States this day communicated to Mr. Coles, his private Secretary, the following Message to Congress;—

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives.

On our present meeting, it is my first duty to invite your attention to the providential favours which our country has experienced in the unusual degree of health dispensed to its inhabitants, and in the rich abundance with which the earth has rewarded the labours bestowed on it. In the successful cultivation of other branches of industry, and in the progress of general improvement favourable to the national prosperity, there is just occasion also for our mutual congratulations and thankfulness.

With these blessings are naturally mingled the pressures and vicissitudes incidental to the state of war into which the United States have been forced by the perseverance of a foreign power in its system of injustice and aggression. Previous to its declaration, it was deemed proper, as a measure of precaution and forecast, that a considerable force should be placed in the Michigan territory, with a general view to its security; and, in the event of war, to such operations in the uppermost Canada, as would intercept the hostile influence of Great Britain over the savages; obtain the command of the lake on which that part of Canada borders; and maintain co-operating relations with such forces as might be most conveniently

conveniently employed against other parts.

Brigadier-General Hull was charged with this provisional service, having under his command a body of troops, composed of regulars and of volunteers from the state of Ohio : having reached his destination, after his knowledge of the war, and possessing discretionary authority to act offensively, he passed into the neighbouring territory of the enemy with a prospect of an easy and victorious progress. The expedition, nevertheless, terminated unfortunately, not only in a retreat to the town and fort of Detroit, but in the surrender of both, and of the gallant corps commanded by that officer. The causes of this painful reverse will be investigated by a military tribunal. A distinguishing feature in the operations which preceded and followed this adverse event, is the use made by the enemy of the merciless savages under their influence. Whilst the benevolent policy of the United States invariably recommended peace, and promoted civilization amongst that wretched portion of the human race, and was making exertions to dissuade them from taking either side in the war, the enemy has not scrupled to call to his aid their ruthless ferocity, armed with the horrors of those instruments of carnage and torture which are known to spare neither age nor sex. In this outrage against the laws of honourable war, and against the feelings sacred to humanity, the British commanders cannot resort to a plan of retaliation ; for it is committed in the face of our example. They cannot mitigate it by calling it a self-

defence against men in arms, for it embraces the most shocking butcheries of defenceless families : nor can it be pretended that they are not answerable for the atrocities perpetrated, since the savages are employed with the knowledge, and even with menaces, that their fury could not be controlled. Such is the spectacle which the deputed authorities of a nation boasting its religion and morality, have not been restrained from presenting to an enlightened age.

The misfortune of Detroit was not, however, without a consoling effect. It was followed by signal proofs, that the national spirit rises according to the pressure on it. The loss of an important post, and of the brave men surrendered with it, inspired every where new ardour and determination. In the state and districts least remote, it was no sooner known, than every citizen was eager to fly with his arms at once to protect his brethren against the blood-thirsty savages let loose by the enemy on an extensive frontier ; and to convert a partial calamity into a source of invigorated efforts. This patriotic zeal, which it was necessary rather to limit than excite, has embodied an ample force from the states of Kentucky and Ohio, and from parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia. It is placed with the addition of a few regulars under the command of Brigadier-Gen. Harrison, who possesses the entire confidence of his fellow-soldiers ; among whom are citizens,—some of them volunteers in the ranks,—not less distinguished by their political stations, than by their personal merits.

The greater portion of this force

is proceeding on its destination towards the Michigan territory, having succeeded in relieving an important frontier post, and in several incidental operations against hostile tribes of savages, rendered indispensable by the subserviency into which they had been seduced by the enemy; a seduction the more cruel, as it could not fail to impose a necessity of precautionary severities against those who yielded to it.

At a recent rate, an attack was made on a post of the enemy near Niagara, by a detachment of the regular and other forces, under the command of Major General Van Rensselaer, of the militia of the State of New York. The attack, it appears, was ordered in compliance with the ardour of the troops, who executed it with distinguished gallantry, and were for a time victorious: but not receiving the expected support, they were compelled to yield to reinforcements of British regulars and savages. Our loss has been considerable, and is deeply to be lamented. That of the enemy, less ascertained, will be the more felt, as it includes among the killed, the commanding general, who was also governor of the province; and was sustained by veteran troops, from inexperienced soldiers, who must daily improve the duties of the field.

Our expectation of gaining the command of the Lakes by the invasion of Canada from Detroit, having been disappointed; measures were instantly taken to provide on them a naval force superior to that of the enemy. From the talents and activity of the officer charged with this object, every thing that can be done may be expected. Should the present season not admit of complete success, the

progress made will ensure for the next a naval ascendancy where it is essential to a permanent peace with, and control over, the savages.

Among the incidents to the measures of the war, I am constrained to advert to the refusal of the governors of Massachusetts and Connecticut to furnish the required detachments of militia towards the defence of the maritime frontier. The refusal was founded on a novel and unfortunate exposition of the provision of the constitution relating to the militia. The correspondence which will be before you, contains the requisite information on the subject. It is obvious, that if the authority of the United States to call into service and command the militia for the public defence, can be thus frustrated, even in a state of declared war, and of course under apprehensions of invasion preceding war, they are not one nation for the purpose most of all requiring it, and that the public safety may have no other resource than those large and permanent military establishments which are forbidden by the principles of our free government, and against the necessity of which the militia were meant to be a constitutional bulwark.

On the coasts and on the ocean, the war has been as successful as circumstances from its early stages could promise. Our public ships and private cruizers, by their activity, and where there was occasion, by their intrepidity, have made the enemy sensible of the difference between a reciprocity of captures, and the long confinement of them to their side. Our trade, with little exception, has safely reached our ports, having been
much

much favoured in it by the course pursued by a squadron of our frigates under the command of Commodore Rodgers; and in the instance in which skill and bravery were more particularly tried with those of the enemy, the American flag had an auspicious triumph. The frigate *Constitution*, commanded by Captain Hull, after a close and short engagement, completely disabled and captured a British frigate; gaining for that officer, and all on board, a praise which cannot be too liberally bestowed,—not merely for the victory actually achieved, but for that prompt and cool exertion of commanding talents, which, giving to courage its highest character, and to the force applied its full effect, proved that more could have been done in a contest requiring more.

Anxious to abridge the evils from which a state of war cannot be exempt, I lost no time after it was declared, in conveying to the British government the terms on which its progress might be arrested; without waiting the delays of a formal and final pacification; and our *Chargé de'Affaires* at London was at the same time authorised to agree to an armistice founded upon them. These terms required, that the Orders in Council should be repealed, as they affected the United States, without a revival of the blockades violating acknowledged rules; that there should be an immediate discharge of American seamen from British ships, and a stop to impressments from American ships, with an understanding that an exclusion of the seamen of each nation from the ships of the other should be stipulated, and that the armistice should be improved into a definitive and comprehen-

sive adjustment of depending controversies.

Although a repeal of the orders, susceptible of explanations meeting the views of this government, had taken place before this pacific advance was communicated to that of Great Britain, the advance was declined from an avowed repugnance to a suspension of the practice of impressment during the armistice, and without any intimation that the arrangement proposed with respect to seamen would be accepted. Whether the subsequent communications from this government, affording an occasion for reconsidering the subject on the part of Great Britain, will be viewed in a more favourable light, or received in a more accommodating spirit, remains to be known. It would be unwise to relax our measures, in any respect, on a presumption of such a result.

The documents from the department of state, which relate to this subject, will give a view also of the propositions for an armistice, which have been received here,—one of them, from the authorities at Halifax and in Canada, the other from the British government itself, through admiral Warren; and of the grounds upon which neither of them could be accepted.

Our affairs with France retain the posture which they held at my last communication to you.

Notwithstanding the authorised expectation of an early as well as favourable issue of the discussions on foot, these have been procrastinated to the latest date. The only intervening occurrence meriting attention, is the promulgation of a French decree, purporting to be a definitive repeal of the Berlin and

and Milan Decrees. This proceeding, although made the ground of the repeal of the British Orders in Council, is rendered, by the time and manner of it, liable to many objections.

The final communications from our special minister to Denmark, afford further proofs of the good effects of his mission, and of the amicable disposition of the Danish government. From Russia we have the satisfaction to receive assurances of continued friendship, and that it will not be affected by the rupture between the United States and Great Britain. Sweden also professes sentiments favourable to existing harmony.

With the Barbary powers, excepting that of Algiers, our affairs remain on the ordinary footing. The consul-general residing with that regency, has suddenly, and without cause, been banished, together with all the American citizens found there. Whether this was the transitory effect of capricious despotism, or the first act of predetermined hostility, is not ascertained. Precautions were taken by the consul on the latter supposition.

The Indian tribes, not under foreign instigations, remain at peace, and receive the civilising attentions which have proved so beneficial to them.

With a view to that vigorous prosecution of the war to which our national faculties are adequate, the attention of Congress will be particularly drawn to the insufficiency of the existing provisions for filling up the military establishment. Such is the happy condition of our country, arising from the facility of subsistence, and the

high wages for every species of occupation, that, notwithstanding the augmented inducements provided at the last session, a partial success only has attended the recruiting service. The deficiency has been necessarily supplied during the campaign by other than regular troops, with all the inconveniencies and expenses incident to them. The remedy lies in establishing more favourably for the private soldier, the proportion between his recompence and the term of his enlistment: and it is a subject which cannot too soon or too seriously be taken into consideration. The same insufficiency has been experienced in the provisions for volunteers made by an act of the last session. The recompence for the service required in this case, is still less attractive than in the other: and although patriotism alone has sent into the field some valuable corps of that description, those alone who can afford the sacrifice, can reasonably be expected to yield to the impulse. It will merit consideration also, whether, as auxiliary to the security of our frontier, corps may not be advantageously organized, with a restriction of their services to particular districts convenient to them; and whether the local or occasional services of marines or others in the sea-port towns, under a similar organization, would not be a proper addition to the means of their defence. I recommend a provision for an increase of the general officers of the army, the deficiency of which has been illustrated by the number and distance of separate commands, which in the cause of the war, and the advantage of the service, have required: and I cannot press too strongly on the

the earliest attention of the legislature, the importance of the re-organization of the staff establishment, with a view to render more distinct and definite the relations and responsibilities of its several departments: that there is room for improvements which will materially promote both economy and success, in what appertains to the army and the war, is equally inculcated by the examples of other countries, and by the experience of our own.

A revision of the militia laws, for the purpose of rendering them more systematic, and better adapting them to emergencies of the war, is at this time particularly desirable. Of the additional ships authorised to be fitted for service, two will be shortly ready to sail; a third is under repair, and delay will be avoided in the repair of the residue. Of the appropriations for the purchase of materials for ship-building, the greater part has been applied to that object, and the purchases will be continued with the balance. The enterprising spirit which has characterized our naval force, and its success both in restraining insults and depredations on our coasts, and in reprisals on the enemy, will not fail to recommend an enlargement upon it.

There being reason to believe, that the act prohibiting the acceptance of British licences is not a sufficient guard against the use of them, for purposes favourable to the interests and views of the enemy; further provisions on that subject are highly important. Nor is it less so, that penal enactments should be provided for cases of corrupt and perfidious intercourse with the enemy, not amounting to treason, nor yet embraced by any statutory provisions.

A considerable number of American vessels, which in England, when the revocation of the Orders in Council took place, were laden with British manufactures, under an erroneous impression that the Non-Importation Act would immediately cease to operate, have arrived in the United States. It did not appear proper to exercise on unforeseen cases of such magnitude, the ordinary powers vested in the treasury department to mitigate forfeitures without previously affording Congress an opportunity of making on the subject such provisions as they may think proper. In their decision, they will, doubtless, equally consult what is due to equitable considerations, and to the public interest.

The receipts into the treasury during the year ending on the 30th of September last, have exceeded sixteen millions and a half of dollars; which have been sufficient to defray all the demands on the treasury to that day, including a necessary reimbursement of near three millions of the principal of the public debt. In these receipts are included a sum of near 8,850,000 received on account of the loans authorised by the acts of last session. The whole sum actually obtained on loan amounts to eleven millions of dollars, the residue of which being receivable subsequent to the 30th of September, will, together with the current revenue, enable us to defray all the expences of this year.

The duties on the late unexpected importations of British manufactures will render the revenue of the ensuing year more productive than could have been anticipated. The situation of our country, fellow-citizens, is not without its difficulties, though it abounds in animating

inating considerations, of which the view here presented of our pecuniary resources is an example. With more than one nation we have serious and unsettled controversies; and with one powerful in the means and habits of war, we are at war. The spirit and strength of this nation are nevertheless equal to the support of all its rights, and to carry it through all its trials. They can be met in that confidence. Above all, we have the inestimable consolation of knowing that the war in which we are actually engaged, is a war neither of ambition nor vain glory; that it is waged, not in violation of the rights of others, but in the maintenance of our own; that it was preceded by a patience without example, under wrongs accumulating without end; and that it was finally not declared until every hope of averting it was extinguished by the British sceptre falling into new hands, clinging to former councils, and until declarations were reiterated in the last hour through the British envoy here, that the hostile edicts against our commercial rights and our maritime independence could not be revoked, without violating the obligations of Great Britain to other powers as well as to her own interests. To have shrunk, under such circumstances, from manly resistance, would have been a degradation blasting our best and proudest hopes. It would have struck us from the high rank where the virtuous struggles of our fathers had placed us, and would have betrayed the magnificent legacy which we hold in trust for future generations. It would have acknowledged, that

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on the element which forms three-fourths of the globe we inhabit, and where all independent nations have equal and common rights, the American people were not an independent people, but colonists and vassals.

It was at this moment, and with such an alternative, that war was chosen. The nation felt the necessity of it, and called for it. The appeal was accordingly made in a just cause, to the just and powerful Being, who holds in his hands the chain of events and the destiny of nations. It remains only, that, faithful to ourselves, entangled with no connections with the views of other powers, and ever ready to accept peace from the hand of justice, we prosecute that war with united council, and with the ample faculties of the nation, until peace be so obtained, and as the only means under the divine blessing of speedily obtaining it.

JAMES MADISON.

Nov. 4, 1812.

Proclamation of the Emperor Alexander, dated St. Petersburg, November 15.

We, Alexander the First, by the Grace of God, Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias, &c.

It is well known to the whole world in what manner the enemy has entered the boundaries of our empire. No step or means that have so frequently been resorted to by the punctual fulfilment of the peaceable stipulations, nor our steady endeavours by all possible means to avert the effects of a bloody

bloody and destructive war, have been able to check his obstinate design, in which he has shown himself entirely immoveable. With peaceful promises on his tongue, he never ceased to think on war. At length having collected a large army, and strengthened it with Austrian, Prussian, Bavarian, Wurtemberg, Westphalian, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Polish regiments, who were constrained through disgrace and fear, he put himself in motion with this immense force, supplied with vast quantities of artillery, and penetrated into the interior of our country. Murder, fire, and destruction, were his attendants on the march. The plundered property, the towns and villages set on fire, the smoking ruins of Moscow, the Kremlin blown up into the air, the temples and altars of the Lord destroyed; in one word, all kinds of cruelty and barbarity, hitherto unheard of, at length prove by his own actions, that they have long been lying concealed in the depth of his mind. The mighty and happy Russian empire, which possesses every thing in abundance, awakened in the heart of the enemy envy and dread. The possession of the whole world could not satisfy him, so long as the fertile fields of Russia still were happy. Full of this envy and internal hatred, he revolved, turned, and arranged in his mind, all manner of evil means by which he might give a dreadful blow to her power, a total confusion to her riches, and bring general destruction on her prosperity. He likewise thought by cunning and flattery, to shake the fidelity

of our subjects; by the defilement of the sanctuaries and God's temples, to make religion unsteady, and to strike the national sight with follies and extravagances. On these hopes he built his destructive plans, and with them he forced himself, like a pestilential and murderous tempest, into the heart of Russia.

The whole world has fixed its attention on our suffering country, and inwardly moved, thought they saw in the reflection of the flames of Moscow the last day of the existence of our freedom and independence. But great and mighty is the God of Justice! The triumph of the enemy was of short duration; pressed on all sides by our valiant armies and levies, he soon discovered that by his temerity, he had ventured too far, and that he could not, either by his vaunted army, his seducements, or his cruelties, inspire fear into the loyal and valiant Russians, nor save himself from destruction. After many fruitless endeavours, and now that he sees his numerous troops every where beaten and destroyed, he, with the small remains of them, seeks his personal safety in the rapidity of his flight; he flies from Moscow with as much fear and depression as he advanced against it with pride and insolence; he flies, leaving his cannon behind him, throwing away his baggage, and sacrificing every thing that can retard the swiftness of his flight. Thousands of the fugitives daily fall to the earth and expire. In such manner does the just vengeance of God punish those who insult his temples. Whilst we, with paternal tenderness and joyful heart,

heart, observe the great and praiseworthy actions of our faithful subjects, we carry our most warm and lively gratitude to the first cause of all good, — the Almighty God; and in the next place we have to express our thanks in the name of our common country, to all our loyal subjects, as the true sons of Russia. By their general energy and zeal, the force of the enemy is brought down to the lowest degree of decline, for the greater part has either been annihilated or made prisoners. All have unanimously joined in the work. Our valiant armies have every where defeated the enemy. The higher nobility have spared nothing by which it could contribute to the increase of the strength of the state. The merchants have distinguished themselves by sacrifices of all kinds. The loyal people, burghers, and peasantry, have given such proofs of fidelity and love for their country, as can only be expected of the Russian nation. They have zealously and voluntarily entered into the hastily raised levies, and have shown a courage and resolution equal to veteran warriors. They have with the same force and intrepidity penetrated the enemy's regiments, with the same implements with which they only a few weeks before turned up their fields. In this manner the troops of levies sent from St. Petersburg and Novogorod, for the strengthening of the forces under Count Wittgenstein, have behaved themselves, especially at Polotzk, and other places. We have besides, and with heart-felt satisfaction, perceived by the reports of the commander in chief of the armies, and

from other generals, that in several governments, and particularly in those of Moscow and Kalouga, the country people have armed themselves, chosen their own leaders, and not only resisted all attempts at seducing them, but also sustained all the calamities that have befallen them with the perseverance of martyrs. Often have they united themselves with our detachments, and assisted them in making their enterprizes and attacks against the enemy. Many villages have secreted their families and tender infants in the woods; and the inhabitants, with armed hand and inconceivable courage, under engagements on the Holy Gospel not to leave each other in danger, defended themselves, and whenever the enemy showed himself, have fallen upon him, so that many thousands of them have been cut to pieces, and dispersed by the peasants, and even by their women, and numbers taken prisoners, who were indebted for their lives to the humanity of those very people whom they came to plunder and destroy.

So high a purpose, and such invincible perseverance in the whole nation, does it immortal honour, worthy of being preserved in the minds of posterity. With the courage of such a nation, we entertain the most well-founded hopes. Whilst we, jointly with the true church, and the holy synod and clergy, supplicate God's assistance, that if our inveterate enemy, and the mocker of God's temple and holiness, should not be entirely and totally destroyed in Russia, yet that his deep wounds, and the blood it has cost

him will bring him to acknowledge her might and strength.

Meanwhile we hold it to be our bounden duty, by this general publication before the whole world, to express our gratitude to the valiant, loyal, and religious Rus-

sian nation, and thereby render it due justice.

Given at St. Petersburg, the 15th day of November, in the year 1812 after the birth of Christ, and in the 12th year of our reign.

(Signed) ALEXANDER.

CHARACTERS.

CHARACTER OF JOHN KNOX.

From M'Crie's Life of Knox.

THAT he possessed strong natural talents is unquestionable. Inquisitive, ardent, acute; vigorous and bold in his conceptions; he entered into all the subtleties of the scholastic science then in vogue, yet, disgusted with its barren results, sought out a new course of study, which gradually led to a complete revolution in his sentiments. In his early years he had not access to that finished education which many of his contemporaries obtained in foreign universities, and he was afterwards prevented, by his unsettled and active mode of life, from prosecuting his studies with leisure; but his abilities and application enabled him in a great measure to surmount these disadvantages, and he remained a stranger to none of the branches of learning cultivated in that age by persons of his profession. He united in a high degree the love of study with a disposition to active employment. The truths which he discovered he felt an irresistible impulse to impart to others, for which he was qualified by a bold, fervid,

and impetuous eloquence, singularly adapted to arrest the attention, and govern the minds of a fierce and unpolished people.

From the time that he embraced the reformed doctrines, the desire of propagating them, and of delivering his countrymen from the delusions and corruptions of popery, became his ruling passion, to which he was always ready to sacrifice his ease, his interest, his reputation and his life. An ardent attachment to civil liberty held the next place in his breast to love of the reformed religion. That the zeal with which he laboured to advance these was of the most disinterested kind, no candid person who has paid attention to his life can doubt for a moment, whatever opinion he may entertain of some of the means which he employed for that purpose. "In fact, he thought only of advancing the glory of God, and promoting the welfare of his country." Intrepidity, independence and elevation of mind, indefatigable activity, and constancy which no disappointments could shake, eminently qualified him for the hazardous and difficult post which he occupied. His integrity was above the suspicion of corruption;

ruption; his firmness proof equally against the solicitations of friends, and the threats of enemies. Though his impetuosity and courage led him frequently to expose himself to danger, we never find him neglecting to take prudent precautions for his safety. The confidence reposed in him by his countrymen shews the high opinion which they entertained of his sagacity as well as of his honesty. The measures taken for advancing the reformation were either adopted at his suggestion, or submitted to his advice; and we must pronounce them to have been as wisely planned, as they were boldly executed.

The most disinterested of the nobility, who were embarked with him in the same cause, sacrificed on some occasions the public good to their private interests, and disappointed the hopes which he had formed of them. The most upright of his associates in the ministry relaxed their exertions, or suffered themselves at times to be drawn into measures that were unsuitable to their station, and hurtful to the reformed religion. Goodman, after being adopted by the church of Scotland, and ranked among her reformers, yielded so far to the love of his native country as to desert a people who were warmly attached to him, and return to the bosom of a less pure church which received him with coldness and distrust. Willock, after acquitting himself honourably from the commencement of the interesting conflict, withdrew before the victory was completely secured, and, wearied out with the successive troubles in which his country was involved, sought a retreat for

himself in England. Craig, being left without the assistance of his colleague, and placed between two conflicting parties, betrayed his fears by having recourse to temporizing measures. Douglas, in his old age, became the dupe of persons whose rapacity had impoverished the protestant church. And each of the superintendents was, at one time or another, complained of for neglect or for partiality, in the discharge of his functions. But from the time that the standard of truth was first raised by Knox in his native country, till it dropped from his hands at death, he never shrunk from danger, never consulted his own ease or advantage, never entered into any compromise with the enemy, never was bribed or frightened into cowardly silence; but keeping his eye singly and steadily fixed on the advancement of religion and of liberty,—supported throughout the character of the Reformer of Scotland.

His ministerial functions were discharged with the greatest assiduity, fidelity, and fervor. No avocation or infirmity prevented him from appearing in the pulpit. Preaching was an employment in which he delighted, and for which he was qualified, by an extensive acquaintance with the scriptures, and by the happy art of applying them, in the most striking manner, to the existing circumstances of the church and of his hearers. His powers of alarming the conscience, and arousing the passions, have been frequently mentioned; but he also excelled in unfolding the consolations of the gospel, and in calming the breasts of those who were either agitated by a sense of guilt, or suffering under the ordinary

nary afflictions of life. When he discoursed of the griefs and joys, the conflicts and triumphs of genuine Christians, he declared what he himself had known and experienced. The letters which he wrote to his familiar acquaintances breathe the most ardent piety. The religious meditations in which he spent his last sickness were not confined to that period of his life; they had been his habitual employment from the time that he was brought to the knowledge of the truth, and his solace amidst all the hardships and perils through which he had passed.

With his brethren in the ministry he lived in the utmost cordiality. We never read of the slightest variance between him and any of his colleagues. While he was dreaded and hated by the licentious and profane, whose vices he never spared, the religious and sober part of his countrymen felt a veneration for him, which was founded on his unblemished reputation, as well as his popular talents as a preacher. In private life, he was both beloved and revered by his friends and domestics. He was subject to the occasional illapses of melancholy and depression of spirits, arising partly from natural constitution, and partly from the maladies which had long preyed upon his health; which made him (to use his own expression) churlish, and less capable of pleasing and gratifying his friends than he was otherwise disposed to be. This he confessed, and requested them to excuse: but his friendship was sincere, affectionate, and steady. When free from this morose affection, he relished the pleasures of

society, and, among his acquaintances, was accustomed to unbend his mind, by indulging in innocent recreation, and in the sallies of wit and humour, to which he had a strong propensity, notwithstanding the graveness of his general deportment. Although in the course of his public life, the severer virtues of his character were more frequently called into action, yet have we met with repeated instances of his acute sensibility; and the unaffected tenderness which occasionally breaks forth in his private letters shews that he was not a stranger to "all the charities" of human life, and that he could "rejoice with them that rejoiced, and weep with them that wept."

Most of his faults may be traced to his natural temperament, and to the character of the age and country in which he lived. His passions were strong; he felt with the utmost keenness on every subject which interested him; and as he felt he expressed himself, without disguise and without affectation. The warmth of his zeal was apt to betray him into intemperate language; his inflexible adherence to his opinions inclined to obstinacy; and his independence of mind occasionally assumed the appearance of haughtiness and disdain. In one solitary instance, the anxiety which he felt for the preservation of the great cause in which he was so deeply interested, betrayed him into an advice which was not more inconsistent with the laws of strict morality, than it was contrary to the stern uprightness, and undisguised sincerity, which characterized the rest of his conduct. A stranger

stranger to complimentary or smooth language, little concerned about the manner in which his reproofs were received, provided they were merited, too much impressed with the evil of the offence to think of the rank or character of the offender, he often "uttered his admonitions with an acrimony and vehemence more apt to irritate than to reclaim." But he protested, at a time when persons are least in danger of deception, and in a manner which should banish every suspicion of the purity of his motives, that, in his sharpest rebukes, he was influenced by hatred of vice, not of the vicious, that his great aim was to reclaim the guilty, and that, in using those means which were necessary for this end, he frequently did violence to his own feelings.

Those who have charged him with insensibility and inhumanity, have fallen into a mistake very common with superficial thinkers, who, in judging of the characters of persons who lived in a state of society very different from their own, have pronounced upon their moral qualities from the mere aspect of their exterior manners. He was austere, not unfeeling; stern, not savage; vehement, not vindictive. There is not an instance of his employing his influence to revenge any personal injury which he had received. Rigid as his maxims as to the execution of justice were, there are numerous instances on record of his interceding for the pardon of criminals; and, unless when crimes were atrocious, or when the welfare of the state was in the most imminent danger, he

never exhorted the executive government to the exercise of severity. The boldness and ardour of his mind, called forth by the peculiar circumstances of the times, led him to push his sentiments on some subjects to an extreme, and no consideration could induce him to retract an opinion of which he continued to be persuaded: but his behaviour after his publication against female government proves, that he was not disposed to improve them to the disturbance of the public peace. His conduct at Frankfurt evinced his moderation in religious differences among brethren of the same faith, and his disposition to make all reasonable allowances for those who could not go the same length with him in reformation, provided they abstained from imposing upon the consciences of others. The liberties which he took in censuring from the pulpit the actions of individuals of the highest rank and station, appear the more strange and intolerable to us, when contrasted with the silence of modern times; but we should recollect that they were then common, and that they were not without their utility, in an age when the licentiousness and oppression of the great and powerful often set at defiance the ordinary restraints of law.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.

From Mr. Butler's Life of Bossuet.

The annals of the world scarcely furnish an instance of such a benefactor

factor to humanity as St. Vincent. He was the son of a day-labourer in Gascony. When about thirty years of age, he was taken prisoner at sea, and carried to Tunis, where he continued two years a slave. Having escaped into France, he entered into holy orders, and devoted himself to the service of the unhappy persons condemned to the galleys. The reform, which he worked among them, the decent and resigned demeanor which he produced in them, and the alleviations of their suffering, which his charitable exertions in their favour obtained for them, were surprising. On one occasion, a poor young man, having, for a single act of smuggling, been condemned to the galleys for three years, complained to him in such moving terms of his misfortunes, and of the distress to which it would reduce his wife and infant children, that St. Vincent substituted himself in his place, and worked in the galleys, during eight months, chained by the leg, to the oar. The fact was then discovered, and he was ransomed. This circumstance was juridically proved, on his canonization, and he always retained, in one of his legs, a soreness from the chain which he had worn. He established the Foundling Hospital at Paris; and raised, by a single speech, which he made for it, in a moment of its distress, an instant subscription of 40,000 French livres. In the war of the Fronde, several thousand German soldiers, who had been seduced, by great promises, into the army of the Fronde, were placed in Paris and its neighbourhood; and the war proving unsuccessful to those who had engaged

them, were abandoned by them, and left to perish. St. Vincent stirred up such a general spirit of charity in their behalf, as enabled him to provide for the immediate subsistence of them all, and to send them back, clothed and fed, to their own country. The calamities of the same war were terrible in Champagne, Picardy, Lorraine, and Artois; and a year of great scarcity coming on, famine and pestilence ensued; numbers perished for hunger, and their bodies lay unburied. Information of this scene of woe being carried to St. Vincent, he raised a subscription of twelve millions of French money, and applied it for the relief of the wretched objects. These, and a multitude of other acts of beneficence, were juridically proved, on his canonization, and Bessuet, in his letter of solicitation, dwells on them with great eloquence. St. Vincent was canonised by Pope Clement XII. and his feast fixed for the 19th of July.

DOCTOR LEYDEN.

This singular and singularly learned man, died at Java, to which island he had accompanied his patron, Lord Minto, at the time of its conquest. The following tribute to his memory comes from the pen of General Malcolm, so much distinguished by his embassy to Persia, by the several treaties which he has negociated with the Indian Sovereigns, and by his late masterly sketch of the political history of India.

To the Editor of the Bombay Courier.

Sir,—I inclose some lines which have no value but what they derive from the subject: they are an unworthy, but sincere, tribute to one whom I have long regarded with sentiments of esteem and affection, and whose loss I regret with the most unfeigned sorrow. It will remain with those who are better qualified than I am to do justice to the memory of Doctor Leyden: I only know that he rose by the power of native genius from the humblest origin to a very distinguished rank in the literary world. His studies included almost every branch of human science, and he was alike ardent in the pursuit of all. The greatest power of his mind was, perhaps, shewn in his acquisition of modern and ancient languages. He exhibited an unexampled facility not merely in acquiring them, but in tracing their affinity and connection with each other; and from that talent, combined with his taste and general knowledge, we had a right to expect, from what he did in a very few years, that he would, if he had lived, have thrown the greatest light upon the more abstruse parts of the history of the East. In this curious, but intricate and rugged path, we cannot hope to see his equal.

Doctor Leyden had from his earliest years cultivated the Muse with a success which will make many regret that Poetry did not occupy a larger portion of his time. The first of his Essays which appeared in a separate form

was "The Scenes of Infancy;" a descriptive poem, in which he sung, in no displeasing strains, the charms of his native mountains and streams in Tiviot-dale. He contributed several small pieces to that collection of poems called the *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, which he published with his celebrated friend Walter Scott. Among these the *Mermaid* is certainly the most beautiful. In it he has shown all the creative fancy of a real genius. His *Ode on the Death of Nelson* is undoubtedly the best of those poetical effusions that he has published since he came to India. The following apostrophe to the blood of that hero has a sublimity of thought and happiness of expression which never could have been attained but by a true poet:

"Blood of the brave, thou art not lost
Amid the waste of waters blue;
The tide that rolls to Albion's coast
Shall proudly boast its sanguine hue;
And thou shalt be the vernal dew
To foster valour's daring seed;
The generous plant shall still its stock
renew,
And hosts of heroes rise when one shall
bleed."

It is pleasing to find him on whom nature has bestowed eminent genius, possessed of those more essential and intrinsic qualities which give the truest excellence to the human character. The manners of Doctor Leyden were uncourtly, more perhaps from his detestation of the vices too generally attendant on refinement, and a wish (indulged to excess from his youth) to keep at a marked distance from them, than from any ignorance of the rules of good breeding. He was fond of talking, his voice was loud, and had little

or

or no modulation, and he spoke in the provincial dialect of his native country; it cannot be surprising, therefore, that even his information and knowledge, when so conveyed, should be felt by a number of his hearers as unpleasant, if not oppressive. But with all these disadvantages (and they were great) the admiration and esteem in which he was always held by those who could appreciate his qualities, became general wherever he was long known; they even who could not understand the value of his knowledge loved his virtues. Though he was distinguished by his love of liberty, and almost haughty independence, his ardent feelings, and proud genius, never led him into any licentious or extravagant speculation on political subjects. He never solicited favour; but he was raised by the liberal discernment of his noble friend and patron, Lord Minto, to a situation that afforded him an opportunity of shewing, that he was as scrupulous and as inflexibly virtuous in the discharge of his public duties, as he was attentive in private life to the duties of morality and religion.

It is not easy to convey an idea of the method which Doctor Leyden used in his studies, or to describe the unconquerable ardour with which these were pursued. During his early residence in India, I had a particular opportunity of observing both. When he read a lesson in Persian, a person near him whom he had taught, wrote down each word on a long slip of paper, which was afterwards divided into as many pieces as there were words, and pasted in alphabetical order, under different heads of verbs, nouns, &c. into a blank book, that

formed a vocabulary of each day's lesson. All this he had in a few hours instructed a very ignorant native to do, and this man he used in his broad accent to call "one of his mechanical aids." He was so ill at Mysore, soon after his arrival from England, that Mr. Anderson, the surgeon, who attended him, despaired of his life; but though all his friends endeavoured at this period to prevail upon him to relax in his application to study, it was in vain. He used, when unable to sit upright, prop himself up with pillows, and continue his translations. One day that I was sitting by his bed-side the surgeon came in: "I am glad you are here," said Mr. Anderson, addressing himself to me, "you will be able to persuade Leyden to attend to my advice. I have told him before, and I now repeat, that he will die, if he does not leave off his studies and remain quiet." "Very well, Doctor," exclaimed Leyden. "you have done your duty, but you must now hear me: I cannot be idle; and whether I die or live the wheel must go round to the last:" and he actually continued, under the depression of a fever, and a liver complaint, to study more than ten hours each day.

The temper of Doctor Leyden was mild and generous, and he could bear with perfect good humour, raillery on his foibles. When he arrived at Calcutta in 1805, I was most solicitous regarding his reception in the society of the Indian capital. "I entreat you, my dear friend," I said to him the day he landed, "to be careful of the impression you make on your entering this community; for God's sake learn a little English, and be
silent

silent upon literary subjects, except among literary men." "Learn English," he exclaimed, "no, never; it was trying to learn that language that spoilt my Scotch; and as to being silent, I will promise to hold my tongue, if you will make fools hold theirs."

His memory was most tenacious, and he sometimes loaded it with lumber. When he was at Mysore, an argument occurred upon a point of English history: it was agreed to refer it to Leyden, and, to the astonishment of all parties, he repeated verbatim the whole of an Act of parliament in the reign of James I. relative to Ireland, which decided the point in dispute. On being asked how he came to charge his memory with such extraordinary matter, he said that several years before, when he was writing on the changes that had taken place in the English language, this Act was one of the documents to which he had referred as a specimen of the style of that age, and that he had retained every word in his memory.

His love of the place of his nativity was a passion in which he had always a pride, and which in India he cherished with the fondest enthusiasm. I once went to see him when he was very ill, and had been confined to his bed for many days; there were several gentlemen in the room; he inquired if I had any news; I told him I had a letter from Eskdale; and what are they about in the borders? he asked. A curious circumstance, I replied, is stated in my letter; and I read him a passage which described the conduct of our volunteers on a fire being kindled by mistake at one of the beacons. This letter

mentioned that the moment the blaze, which was the signal of invasion, was seen, [the Mountaineers hastened to their rendezvous, and those of Leddesdale swam the Ewes river to reach it. They were assembled (though several of their houses were at a distance of six and seven miles) in two hours; and at break of day the party marched into the town of Hawick (a distance of twenty miles from the place of assembly) to the border tune of "Wha dare meddle wi' me?" Leyden's countenance became animated as I proceeded with this detail; and at its close he sprung from his sick bed, and with strange melody and still stranger gesticulations, sung aloud, "Wha dare meddle wi' me? wha dare meddle wi' me?" Several of those who witnessed this scene looked at him as one that was raving in the delirium of a fever.

These anecdotes will display more fully than any description I can give, the lesser shades of the character of this extraordinary man. An external manner certainly not agreeable, and a disposition to egotism, were his only defects. How trivial do these appear, at a moment when we are lamenting the loss of such a rare combination of virtues, learning, and genius, as were concentrated in the late Doctor Leyden!

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN MALCOLM.

Where sleep the brave on Java's strand,
Thy ardent spirit, Leyden! fled.
And fame with cypress shades the land,
Where genius fell, and valour bled.

When triumph's tale is westward borne,
On border hills no joy shall gleam:
And thy lov'd Tiviot long shall mourn
The youthful Poet of her stream.

Near

Near Jura's rocks the mermaid's strain
Shall change from sweet, to solemn lay;
For he is gone, the stranger swain,
Who sung the Maid of Colonsay.

The hardy Tar, Britannia's pride,
Shall hang his manly head in woe:
The Bard who told how Nelson died,
With harp unstrung, in earth lies low.

I see a weeping band arise,
I hear sad music on the gale;

Thy dirge is sung from Scotia's skies,
Her mountain Sons their loss bewail.

The Minstrel of thy native North
Pours all his soul into the song;
It bursts from near the winding Forth,
And Highland rocks the notes prolong.

Yes, he who struck a matchless lyre,
O'er Flodden's field, and Katrine's wave;
With trembling hand now leads the choir
That mourn his Leyden's early grave.

MANNERS, CUSTOMS, &c.

OF

NATIONS AND CLASSES OF PEOPLE.

THE ARAB PIRATES.

(From Morier's Travels in Persia.)

THE Arabs in every age, have been alike distinguished for a spirit of commerce and of plunder: and were early and great navigators, both as merchants and as pirates. In the time of Mahomed there existed a predatory tribe, whose chief is described in the Koran, according to Ebn Haukal, as "the King, who forcibly seized every sound ship." This empire is said to have been founded prior to the time of Moses; and if the continuance of the same occupations on the spot be a proof of the identity of the people, it may be traced to the Arabs of the present day.

The Portuguese power was often violated by these pirates: and in the same age the English interests in the East were so much endangered by them, that one of the agents in Persia (who had all indeed successively made representations on the necessity of sending an armed force to destroy them) declared, that "they were likely to become as great plagues in India,

as the Algerines were in Europe." Some of these ships had from 30 to 50 guns: and one of their fleets, consisting of five ships, carried between them one thousand five hundred men. Within the last few years, their attacks have been almost indiscriminate; nor had they learnt to respect even English colours, as the instance in the text, and the subsequent capture of the *Minerva*, Capt. Hopgood, proved too well. The British government, however, knowing the intimate connection of these pirates on the coast with the Wahabee, proceeded in the suppression of the evil with cautious judgment; and when, by the extension of these outrages to themselves, they were driven to vindicate the honour of their flag, and to extirpate their enemies, they regarded all the ports, which had not actually included the British within their depredations, as still neutral; and endeavoured to confine their warfare to reprisals, for specific acts of violence, rather than to commit themselves generally against the Wahabee, by extending the attack to those of that alliance who, amid all their piracies, had yet not violated the commerce of England.

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We might indeed thus separate the Joassmee tribe from the Wahabee, for we had already, in a formal treaty, recognized them as an independent power; though perhaps for all other purposes, they might be considered as identified. The strength, however, of the Joassmees alone was very considerable. The ports in their possession contained, according to a well-authenticated calculation, in the middle of the year 1809, 63 large vessels, and 810 of smaller sizes; together manned by near 19,000 men. This force was increasing; the pirates, in a fleet of 55 ships, of various sizes, containing altogether 5,000 men, had, after a fight of two days, taken the *Minerva*, and murdered almost all the crew: in the next month a fleet of 70 sail of vessels (navigated severally by numbers rising from 80 to 150 and 200 men) were cruising about the Gulph and threatening Bushire: and the chief of Ras al Khyma, whose harbour was almost the exclusive resort of the larger vessels, had dared to demand a tribute from the British government, that their ships might navigate the Persian Gulph in safety. Our forbearance was now exhausted, and an expedition was sent from Bombay, under Captain Wainwright, and Lieut.-Colonel Smith, of his Majesty's sea and land forces, to attack the pirates in their ports. The first object was Ras al Khyma. The armament, after a short siege, carried the place by storm, destroyed all the naval equipments, and sparing the smaller vessels, burnt the 50 large ships which the harbour contained. They proceeded to the ports of the Arab pirates on the

Persian coast, and completed the destruction of all their means of annoyance. They then attacked Shinass, one of their harbours on the Indian ocean. The defence of this place was most heroical; and was conducted indeed for the Joassmees, as was subsequently learnt, by a favourite and confidential general of Saood Ibn Abdool Uzzeer, the chief of the Wahabee. When on the third day of the siege, the few survivors were called upon to surrender, they replied, that they preferred death to submission; and when the towers were falling round them, they returned upon their assailants the hand-grenades and fire-balls before they could burst. Twice Lieut.-Colonel Smith ceased firing, to endeavour to spare the unavailing effusion of their blood; till at length, when they were assured of being protected from the fury of the troops of our ally the Imaun of Muscat, which had co-operated with us, they surrendered to the English.

The expedition then scoured all the coast a second time, to destroy any fragments of that pirate power, against which it was directed; and extirpated in every quarter all the means of annoyance which the Joassmees possessed. There was indeed another force of another tribe, which might eventually grow up into a formidable enemy; but this was distinctly under the protection of the Wahabee, who had invested its chief with the title of Sheik al Behr, or "Lord of the Sea;" and till it marked its hostility to us by joining in the attacks upon our commerce, it was judged expedient not to confound it in one indiscriminate warfare; but

but rather to open a communication with this particular chief, and through him to the Wahabee himself, advising the one to prohibit the piracies of his dependants, and requiring the other to respect the flag of England. In answer the Wahabee observed, "The cause of the hostilities carrying on between me and the members of the faith, is, their having turned away from the Book of the Creator, and refused to submit to their own prophet Mahomed. It is not, therefore, those of another sect, against whom I wage war, nor do I interfere in their hostile operations, nor assist them against any one; whilst under the power of the Almighty, I have risen superior to all my enemies." * * *

"Under these circumstances, I have deemed it necessary to advise you that I shall not approach your shores, and have interdicted the followers of the Mahomedan faith and their vessels, from offering any molestation to your vessels: any of your merchants, therefore, who may appear in, or wish to come to my ports, will be in security; and any person on my part who may repair to you, ought in like manner to be in safety." * * * "Be not, therefore, elated with the conflagration of a few vessels, for they are of no estimation in my opinion, in that of their owners, or of their country. In truth then war is bitter; and a fool only engages in it, as a poet has said."

The want of timber has always been felt so much by the people of the two Gulphs, and of the western coast of the Indian ocean, that a check on their supplies from the Malabar coast, which Brigadier-

General Malcolm very seasonably suggested, will probably keep down the future growth of the pirate power. The fleet of the sultan of Egypt, which was destined to relieve Diu, was formed of Dalmatian timber, transported overland to the arsenals of Suez; and even some of the houses at Siraff, on the gulph of Persia, were formed of European wood. In the seventeenth century, the Arabs of Muscat, who subsequently formed connections on the Malabar coast to procure timber, obtained permission from the king of Pegu to build ships in the ports of his country. If therefore the importation of foreign wood were cut off, the Arabs could hardly, without extreme difficulty, maintain a naval force.

*(From Semple's Present State of
the CARACAS.)*

The general manners and customs of the province are those of Spain, by no means improved by crossing the Atlantic, or by the mixture of Indian and Negro blood with that of the first conquerors. It may be laid down, as an axiom, that wherever there is slavery, there is corruption of manners. There is a reaction of evil from the oppressed to the oppressor, from the slave to his master. Here it has been weakened, by the general mildness observed towards domestic slaves; but it has not been destroyed, and, even should slavery be finally abolished, its influence over private life will long be felt. After great debates, the importation of slaves has been forbidden by the new legislature; although many still remain of opinion,

nion, that they are necessary to the prosperity of the country. During my stay at La Guayra, a vessel arrived from the coast of Africa, with negroes: but as she had sailed previously to the passing of the prohibitory law, they were allowed to be landed, and were sold immediately, at more than three hundred dollars each, upon an average.

In general, the owners of slaves are little anxious how they are supported, provided they perform the usual offices, and make their appearance on certain occasions of ceremony. This is a great source of dishonesty. Whenever a slave can by any means make up the sum of three hundred dollars to his owner, he is free. He is not even obliged to give this sum at once, but may pay it in single dollars, or half dollars, until the amount be complete. A slave has also the liberty of seeking a new master, and may go about to sell himself. These, and other regulations, tend, in some measure, to alleviate the evils of slavery, and still more to evince, by their beneficial effects, how much preferable would be its complete abolition.

Almost the whole commerce of the country is carried on by European Spaniards, and by *Islenos*, or Islanders, from the Canaries. They buy and sell, are the merchants and the shopkeepers, in all the towns. A spirit of union, and frequently an impenetrable provincial dialect, binds them together, and gives them great advantages in all their transactions. The European, who expects to see a number of purchasers in competition, is frequently surprised to find only one or two, until the bargain

being completed, the whole who were interested in it, appear. The natives of the country, so far from considering this transaction of their affairs by strangers as a reproach to their indolence, turn it into a source of national pride. "The Americans," say they, "have no need to go to Europe; but it plainly appears, that Europeans have need of us. We are not, like them, obliged to hawk our commodities over half the globe. Our rich and abundant products draw them hither, and convert them into our servants." In this manner reason the Chinese, vain of their supposed superiority over all mankind. And in this manner might argue the savages of the South Seas, who behold Europeans visiting them, but who never visit Europe.

The manners of the towns, and in the interior, differ greatly, or rather they belong to different periods in the progress of society. After passing the great chain of mountains which borders all this coast, from the gulph of Venezuela to that of Paria we come to immense plains, devoid of trees, known by the general name of *Las Llanos*, or the Plains. Beyond them are other ridges of high mountains, which the traveller beholds rising gradually above the horizon, like land when first discovered at sea. These plains afford pasturage to innumerable cattle, the proprietors of which reside in the great towns, leaving them to the care of slaves, or people of colour. Hence a population is rapidly forming of a character wholly different from that of the immediate descendants of Europeans, or the natives of the coast.

A bold and lawless race, accustomed to be always on horseback and living nearly in a state of nature, wanders over these plains. Among them are many professed robbers, who render travelling dangerous, and are already beginning to form into small bands. They live almost entirely on the flesh of cattle, without regarding to whom they belong; killing an animal at every meal, and after satisfying their hunger, leaving the remainder of the carcase to the birds of prey and the wild animals of the desert. These men are well known, and frequently pointed out in the villages, but the inefficacy of the laws leaves them at liberty, until some act of uncommon atrocity excites the attention of the magistrates. Even after being seized, they frequently make their escape, either through the carelessness of their keepers, or the delays of justice; and return with increased avidity to their former mode of life. In the villages and small towns thinly scattered over these plains, great dissoluteness of morals prevails. The mixture of races is a source of endless corruption, to which are joined a climate inducing indolence and voluptuousness, and the total absence of all refined methods of passing time away. The highest delight both to women and men is, to swing about in their hammocks, and smoke cigars. Gambling to excess, and tormenting of bulls, are their principal amusements. Religion has no beneficial effect upon their morals; if they commit sins, they confess them and are forgiven. To all this is joined an apathy which is astonishing. Liveliness forms no part of their character;

on the contrary, they generally speak in a mild and drawing tone, which gives the highest idea of indifference, and almost of a disinclination to the trouble of opening their mouths. When a little animated, however, this softness in the voice of the women, it must be confessed, is not displeasing, until its monotony becomes tiresome to the ear of an European.

I have not entered into a detail of the various races which people this country, as they are composed of the same materials which exist in all the Spanish colonies of South America; and have been frequently and accurately described. Over all, as is well known, until very lately, the European was considered as pre-eminent, frequently without any just cause. Next in rank were the Creoles, or descendants of European parents, and then a long succession of the various shades of mixture with Indian or African blood. The late revolutions in this country have abolished some of these distinctions, and seem likely in time to destroy still more; the probable consequences of which are worthy of serious attention.

THE SICILIAN CHARACTER.

From Galt's Voyages and Travels.

Our knowledge of the characters of nations is derived from history; but there are moral features among every people which history never describes. In estimating the character of the Sicilians, this consideration ought to be particularly borne in mind. The island has been so long connected with Naples, that the two countries, in opinion,

opinion, have become almost inseparably blended; and much of that bloody colouring, which darkens the complexion of their general national character, may, properly, belong only to the Neapolitan. Still, however, the circumstances of the Sicilian government, from an early æra, serve to show, that the political attachments of the people have never been lasting, nor have they, in any epoch of their story, evinced that they possessed that resolute courage which has often enabled small communities to acquire immortal renown, in their opposition to superior powers.

The Sicilians are rather a sly than a cunning race; perhaps no nation in Europe possesses so much naïveté. Loquacious and ingenious, they make more use of persuasion in their dealings than any other people. It is not enough that a Sicilian objects the high price of what he desires to purchase; he expatiates on the inferiority of the quality; recalls to recollection how long he has been a customer; enumerates, one by one, counting them on his fingers, the circumstance of unlucky bargains that he has had; flatteringly contrasts the opulence of the English with the poverty of the Sicilians; animadvert on the politics of the government; magnifies the value of his ready-money; insinuates that he may change his merchant; and often retires, and returns several times, before he offers his ultimatum. Nor in selling does he practise less address. There is not a single point of his wares that does not possess something extraordinary, or beautiful: no other shop in the town has any thing like them; so cheap, or so excellent. If the

price be high, What will you give? and it is seldom that a Sicilian refuses the offer of an Englishman.

The inhabitants of this island are, in the proper sense of the term, highly superstitious, but the dicta of ignorance are so interwoven with the creeds of popery, that many notions of vulgar superstition are regarded as essentials of religion. The only exception is a belief in the effects of the influence of evil eyes; and even over this, the priesthood have acquired jurisdiction. For they persuade the people to buy bits of blessed rags and paper, which, when worn suspended round the neck, have the effect, as they pretend, of neutralizing the malignancy. The influence of an evil look is instantaneous; and the person who happens to glance it, may be unconscious of what he does: it smites the subject with sudden malady, or impresses his mind with lugubrious images, and unfits him for the prosecution of premeditated intentions. It is useless to speculate on the fantasies of the human mind; but, in this case, the constant flickering of electricity in this climate, and the occasional breathing of pestiferous exhalations, from the vegetable corruption in the bottoms of the valleys, afford a plausible reason for the sudden distempers and dejections which are ascribed to the aspect of ungracious eyes. The same superstition is well known in Scotland; but it is more generally prevalent among the Sicilians than the Scotch. Whether it is, among us, an imported or indigenous belief, cannot now be ascertained. Over all the ancient extent of the papal empire, there

is a great similarity in the topics of vulgar credulity.

The Sicilians have, certainly, a very keen relish of humour; and, now and then, one may perceive in them a strong trait of peculiarity, not individual but national, which, notwithstanding their ancient proficiency, is an assurance to think that they may yet attain some literary superiority which shall be regarded as original. A description of manners and customs, by a genuine Sicilian, otherwise properly qualified, would equally surprise and delight.

SICILIAN NOBILITY.

From the same.

Of the character and condition of the Sicilian nobles I have uniformly received but one opinion. The time of by far the greater number is spent in the pursuit of amusement, and of any other object than the public good. The most of them are in debt, and the incomes of but few are adequate to their wants: many are in a state of absolute beggary.

One evening, as I happened to be returning home, I fell in with a procession of monks and soldiers bearing an image of St. Francis; and, not having seen any thing of the kind before, I went with the crowd into a church towards which the procession was moving. While reckoning the number of the friars as they entered, and having reached a hundred and seventy, all excellent subjects for soldiers, a well-dressed gentleman came up to me, and, bowing, pointed to some of the ornaments as objects worthy of a stranger's curiosity; but, per-

ceiving me shy of entering into conversation with him, and the procession entering the church at the same time, he walked, or was forced by the current of the crowd, away.

The idol being placed near the high altar, the crowd began to chant a hymn. As they all fell on their knees, and my tight prejudices and small clothes would not permit me to do the same, I turned into one of the side chapels, and, leaning against the railing of the altar, began to speculate on the spectacle before me, when the stranger again accosted me. Somewhat disconcerted by the interruption, and by the forwardness of the man, I abruptly quitted my place. But, before I had moved two steps, he approached, and, bowing, said, I am the Baron M——, and my palace is just opposite. At this instant the worshippers rose, and the procession turning to go out at one of the side doors near where we were standing, before I could retreat, I found myself involved in the crowd, and obliged to go with the stream. When I reached the street, I found the stranger again at my side. This is very extraordinary, thought I; and, without seeming to notice him, walked away. He followed; and when we had got out of the nucleus of the throng, he seized me firmly by the arm, and drew me aside. Enraged and alarmed at this mysterious treatment, I shook him fiercely from me. For about the time that one might count twenty, he seemed to hesitate; and then, suddenly coming back, repeated, in Italian, with considerable energy, "I, I am the Baron M——. This is my palace; but I have nothing to eat!" I looked at
the

the building, near the gate of which we were then standing : it was old and ruinous : there was no lamp in the court-yard, and only a faint light glimmering in one of the windows.

Mistaking my silence and astonishment, he pulled out his watch, and, placing it in my hand, entreated me to give him some money. As I had no disposition to become a pawnbroker, I returned it with some expressions of surprise, and took out my purse with the intention of giving it to him, for it only contained two or three small pieces. But here all the solemnity of the adventure terminated. He snatched it out of my hand, and, emptying the contents into his own, returned it; and wishing me a good night, ran into the gateway.

THE IDRIOTS.

From the same.

Idra, as far as my recollection serves, was not of any consequence in the brilliant periods of Grecian history. The present city originated in a small colony of boatmen belonging to the Morea, who took refuge here from the tyranny of the Turks. About forty years ago they had multiplied to a considerable number; their little village began to assume the appearance of a town, and they had vessels that went as far as Constantinople.

In their mercantile transactions, the Idriots acquired the reputation of greater integrity than the other Greeks, as well as of being the most intrepid navigators in the Archipelago; and they were, of course, regularly preferred. Their

honesty and industry obtained its reward. When the French revolution broke out, they had several large ships, which they loaded with grain, and sent to France, during the scarcity which prevailed at the beginning of the late war. The profit arising from these voyages enabled them to increase the number of their shipping; and they now possess eighty ships, of more than two hundred and fifty tons, besides several hundreds of smaller vessels and wherries. They have two or three ships, not inferior in strength and size to frigates. At Malta and Messina, I was told that the number of the Idriot shipping was much greater; but this was a mistake, arising from considering vessels belonging to the islands of Specia, Paros, Myconi, and Ipsera, as Idriots. These islands resemble Idra in their institutions; and the inhabitants possess the same character for commercial activity.

In paying their sailors, Idra and its sister islands have a peculiar custom. The whole amount of the freight is considered as a common stock from which the charges of victualling the ship are deducted. The remainder is then divided into two equal parts; one is allotted to the crew, and equally shared among them, without reference to age or rank. The other part is appropriated to the ship and the captain.

The capital of the cargo is a trust given to the captain and the crew on certain fixed conditions. For all voyages to the Levant, a profit of twenty per cent on their respective shares, is allowed to the contributors of the capital, and the same in voyages which do not extend to the westward beyond Malta and Sicily; but in voyages to France

France and Spain, within the Straits, thirty per cent is given. All the profits, after paying all the capitalists, is divided on the same principle, and by the same rule, as a freight earned by charter. Losses by accidents of navigation are sustained by the capitalists; but those arising from bad sales, fall on the captain and the crew, who are obliged to make good the deficiency. The first time that I visited this island, there was a vessel in the port, which, by an unsuccessful voyage, had incurred a loss of no less than four thousand pounds sterling; and this sum the crew and captain were then making good to the capitalists.

The Idriots never insure their ships or cargoes. The vessels generally belong to a great number of persons, and some of the capitalists have only five or ten pounds sterling embarked in one bottom. The value of their several shares is not of sufficient importance to induce the owners to think of insuring them. In the early period of their history, to purchase a cargo of grain, for it is chiefly by their trade in that article that the Idriots have acquired their wealth, was in some sort a public undertaking. The whole community was concerned in it.

The character and manners of the common Idriot sailors, from the moral effect of these customs, is much superior, in regularity, to the ideas that we are apt to entertain of sailors. They are sedate, well dressed, well bred, shrewd, informed, and speculative. They seem to form a class in the orders of mankind, which has no existence among us. By their voyages, they acquire a liberality of notion,

which we expect only among gentlemen; while, in their domestic circumstances, their conduct is suitable to their condition. The Greeks are all traditionary historians, and possess much of that kind of knowledge to which the term "learning" is usually applied. This, mingled with the other information of the Idriots, gives them that advantageous character of mind, which, I think, they possess.

The town is certainly a very extraordinary place. The houses rise from the border of the port, which is in the form of a horse-shoe, in successive tiers, to a great height, and many of them appear on the pinnacles of cliffs which would make a Bath or an Edinburgh garteeer giddy to look from. The buildings are all brightly white-washed; and a number of windmills being, almost constantly, in motion on the heights, the effect of the scene, with the addition of the bustle on the wharfs below, is, at once, surprising, and uncommonly cheerful.

There are upwards of forty parochial churches in the town; and two of them are adorned with handsome steeples. Idra forms part of the diocese of Egina and Paros, one of the richest bishoprics of Greece. The nett income is estimated at upwards of six hundred pounds sterling. The episcopal residence is in Egina, but the bishop visits Idra every year. The population of the town is said to exceed twenty thousand souls; and I think it is not exaggerated.

There were, when I was there, no public schools but those of the parochial priests. Eight of the principal

principal inhabitants had procured an Italian master for their children, to whom they paid about seventy-five pounds sterling per annum.

Though the poor are numerous, there is no public provision for them; but the charity of individuals is liberal; and many allot the profits of a share of their vessels, and even sometimes more, to be regularly distributed among the needy.

All goods, I may say every thing that is necessary for the subsistence of man, as the island produces nothing, pay here a duty of two and a half per cent. This serves as a fund for public uses; and for any extraordinary demands, which the exigencies of the sultan may require. In addition to this, every man capable of bearing arms pays about three shillings sterling per annum of tribute. The Porte is contented with this moderate tax, in consequence of the Idriots furnishing a number of sailors for the Turkish navy. They furnished two hundred and fifty sailors last year, whom they paid at the rate of about fifty shillings per man monthly. On some occasions, a subscription has been raised, to help the insufficiency of the ordinary revenue.

It can hardly be said that this little state, for such it deserves to be considered, as it is governed by rulers of its own choosing, and is rather under the protection of the sultan than subject to his immediate authority, has any laws; but it has many usages, which have all the force of laws. Litigated questions are decided by the magistrates collectively, whose awards are recorded in the chancery of the

city, and become precedents. Ordinary delinquents are punished by the magistrates; but greater criminals, after conviction, are sent to Constantinople, with the authenticated evidence of their offences. Property in houses is exchanged by documents, of which copies are lodged in the chancery; thus giving clearness and stability to the rights of proprietors, like that which is afforded by the institution of the Register Office in Scotland. For the security of the rights of property in vessels, a book is kept by one of the owners, and in it all that relates to the ship is recorded.

CHARACTER OF THE PEOPLE OF
THE ISLE OF MAN. *From an
Account of that Island by G.
Woods.*

The Manks are reckoned to be naturally of an indolent and credulous, often of a superstitious and gloomy disposition. I do not know of any one that has rendered himself eminent by a great proficiency, or useful discovery in the arts or sciences, by fire of genius or profundity of learning. Characters endowed with piety, benevolence, and other virtues, in general, I trust, less remarkable, have not been rare. I would particularise several, were I not afraid of omitting others of perhaps equal merit. Some of the women of the higher classes are well informed and accomplished: most of the lower classes, civil and industrious. To these may be applied the character which one of the authors of King's Cheshire gives to the women of that country: they are usually,

says

says he, very prolific after marriage, and sometimes before. An honest and industrious servant-girl is not *ruined* by becoming a mother, though for the sake of decency her place is lost. To this laxity of morals is attributed the absence, even in Douglas, of those women which so frequently swarm in towns. I was informed that their trade had been tried, but found not to answer. The servants of Man are more dirty and untidy than the English, but less so than the Scotch or Irish.

The people are attached to their native vales and mountains, to their ancient customs, and their laws. They considered themselves independent of the English nation, and were greatly affected by the sale of the island, which they thought would blend the countries. Though few the enjoyments of the lower orders, their cares are also few. Over a jug of ale their troubles are frequently forgotten; and, when again remembered, are expected to terminate with the next fishing season. The cheapness of law encourages strife: many a quarrel, which, in England, would be amicably adjusted, is here brought into court. Rancour, when long indulged, it is not easy to eradicate.

Insanity among the natives is reckoned rather common: it is usually of a melancholy, not of a violent description. Persons afflicted with this calamity, if not kept at home by their friends, are permitted to roam at large.

The middle and higher ranks mix too much with the English to retain any peculiar characteristic of their native country. The chief trade and much of the farm-

ing business is carried on by strangers. Civilization is little, if at all, behind the remoter parts of England. An anonymous writer of the last century says, that knives and forks were scarcely known here; that when a person gave a dinner, the appendage was a few butchers knives for carvers; that their thumbs and fingers and their teeth were the only implements allotted to the guests. He was either misinformed himself, or attempted to mislead his readers.

The people are hospitably and charitably disposed. One of their proverbs is, "When one poor man relieves another God himself laughs for joy." Poor-rates and most other parochial rates are things unknown; and there is not in the whole island either hospital, work-house, or house of correction. A collection is made after the morning service of every Sunday for the relief of such poor of the parish as are thought deserving of charity. The donation is optional; but it is usual for every one to give something. Beggars are little encouraged and rarely met with. The want of poor-rates and work-houses is by some thought a disadvantage; while others, judging by their effect in England, and reasoning upon general principles, imagine that, while they are a tax upon the higher and middle classes, they are rather detrimental than beneficial to the industrious poor, and consequently prejudicial to a nation.

In every parish is at least one charity school, and often a small library. These were founded by Bishops Barrow and Wilson, are supported by voluntary contributions,

tions, and many of them have funds arising from legacies and donations.

ACCOUNT OF RAGUSA. *From Essays Geographical, Commercial and Political.*

Ragusa is a small but independent state, which forms a part of Dalmatia in European Turkey: it is bounded by the Gulf of Venice on the west; by Venetian Dalmatia on the north and north west; by Turkish Dalmatia on the north east and east; and by Albania on the south and south east. Its length from north to south in a direct line is about 100 miles, and its breadth from east to west 18 or 20. It is surrounded on the land-side by a ridge of mountains, which separate it from the adjacent country, over which are several passages of easy access to men and horses; the interior of the country is also very mountainous, and the surface of the mountains barren and unproductive; but the valleys produce corn and various kinds of delicious fruit, as apples, pears, plums, grapes, figs, pomegranates, &c. though no oranges.

It should seem, however, that the country is not remarkably fertile, or the inhabitants but little skilled in agriculture; since, notwithstanding the thinness of its population, they are frequently under the necessity of importing corn from Turkey.

It has most of the fowls common in England, and all our quadrupeds, as horses, oxen, sheep, goats, hogs, &c. plenty of hares

and rabbits, and a few foxes. Bees too are kept in a domesticated state amongst them, as with us.

The Raguseans have but one harvest and vintage in the year; the former commences about the 20th of June, and the latter the 10th of September, and the wines which they make are cheap and plentiful, and the common drink of the inhabitants.—Yet notwithstanding the temperature of the climate, the mountains are frequently covered with snow in winter, though ice is very rarely seen.

The country is frequently visited by earthquakes: about 140 years ago half the town of Ragusa was destroyed by one, and a year seldom passes without some symptoms of them.

Many villages are scattered up and down the country, containing from 3 to 500 inhabitants each; but it has no considerable town except Ragusa, the capital, which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in circumference, and contains about 9,000 inhabitants, or, with the suburbs, 12,000: the houses are built of a very fine stone, and remarkably strong, to resist the effect of earthquakes.

The coast is all along full of harbours fit for large fleets, with very secure anchorage, and the sea well stored with fish. About twelve small islands are scattered along it, which form a part of the Ragusean territory: the principal of them are Augusta and Meleda. Augusta is about 25 miles in circumference, containing 200 inhabitants, and has a fishery established on it for anchovies and sardines, which are exported to Venice,

Venice, Trieste, and Ancona; it produces corn and wine for the supply of its inhabitants.

Meleda is 50 miles in circumference; but has only about 2,000 inhabitants, who live in a few small villages, and have no considerable town in the island: it has three good harbours, and produces corn sufficient for the support of its own inhabitants, but nothing of any value to the state except firewood.

It has been much disputed in the Italian schools, whether this island be not the same which is called Melita in the New Testament, on which St. Paul and his companions were shipwrecked; and many have been inclined to give it the preference to Malta in that respect; not only from the coincidence of its name (which in Latin is Melita), but from the great difficulty, if not impossibility, of reconciling the account there given of the wind, &c. with the situation of Malta.—It abounds with destructive serpents, by which both the inhabitants and the cattle frequently suffer: the bite of some of them is so deadly, as to occasion instant death without remedy; but others less noxious cause a tumour, which by degrees spreads over the whole frame, and produces the death of the patient in two or three days, unless they take the precaution of immediately cutting out the part affected, when no further inconvenience ensues.

These serpents are also found in Ragusa, but they are neither so noxious nor so numerous as on this island.

This remarkable state has not only preserved its independence in

the midst of a powerful empire, against the arms of which it possesses no means of defence, but has enjoyed the most profound tranquillity for the space of 1,000 years with only one small interruption, which happened about 22 years ago, when the Russians, being at war with the Turks, began to commit depredations on the Ragusean shipping, but the affair was very soon made up.

Having no internal commotions nor external wars of their own, nor any concern in those of their neighbours, the state maintains neither army, nor navy, nor any thing which has the appearance of hostile force, except about fifty soldiers, who attend the doge on special occasions, merely for the purpose of pomp and parade.

Although the continuance of this happy state of peace and tranquillity (so different from the condition of all the more polished nations of Europe) must no doubt be attributed in a great measure to the poverty and infertility of their country, which affords little to gratify the avarice or ambition of an invader, yet it appears to have been partly occasioned by the following circumstance: When the Turks had overrun Greece and conquered the provinces of Bosnia, Servia, &c. the Raguseans sent deputies to congratulate the Sultan on his success, and to solicit his protection: as they were the first and only people who had complimented him in this manner, he received them graciously, and entered into a treaty to allow them their independence, which has been kept inviolable to the present day; and once every three years
two

two senators are still deputed from Ragusa to Constantinople to renew the friendship.

In the above-mentioned treaty it was stipulated, that the Raguseans should pay the Grand Seignior an annual tribute; in consideration of which, they have the exclusive privilege of selling salt in the Turkish dominions.

Ragusa produces very little in itself for the purpose of trade, except a small quantity of oil; the salt which they sell to the Turks is partly found in the peninsula of Stagn (part of their territory), but principally imported from Sicily and Sardinia; wool, wax, iron, hides, leather, &c. are brought by land carriage from Turkey, and exported from Ragusa to Venice, Ancona, Apulia, Trieste, &c.: they import linen and woollen cloth from Trieste and Leghorn, timber for ship-building from Albania, masts from Istria, hemp and flax from Ancona, pitch and tar from Venetian Dalmatia, &c.; their country produces fir-timber, but very little fit for ship-building, and no iron, flax, or hemp.—Their principal wealth and support arises from their shipping, which is not only sufficient for all the purposes of their own trade; but also enables them to act as general carriers for other nations almost all over the Mediterranean, and sometimes they are freighted beyond the straits of Gibraltar to Portugal, England, &c.

The whole state contains about 260 merchantmen of 100 to 600 tons each, besides several smaller vessels which are employed in the coasting trade of the Adriatic, and they have in all about 5,000 seamen. The ships carry guns for

their own defence, and have the Grand Seignior's firman to protect them from the Barbarian cruizers.

It is a law in this country that no ship shall be absent from home more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ years at one time, for which purpose passports are granted by the government for that period; and when a ship returns from such a campaign (as it is called) if she is not freighted back to some part of the Adriatic, she is obliged to bring a cargo of salt home to Ragusa: when a captain outstays his time, or fails in any of these particulars, he is, on his return home, tried by the overseers of navigation, and, if found guilty of any criminal negligence, is punished by a fine or imprisonment.

They have no political connexion with the Venetians; neither pay them tribute, nor receive protection from them, nor have they done it in the captain's memory, or at any former period, to his knowledge, being two rival powers in maritime affairs, whose interests are too discordant to admit of much friendship, and occasion some degree of jealousy; but when the generalissimo of the Venetian galleys enters the port of Ragusa (through contrary winds, &c.) the senate render him some degree of homage as master of the Adriatic.

The whole country of Ragusa and all its dependencies do not contain more than 60,000 inhabitants: its civil government is aristocratical; both legislative and executive power being vested in the senate, which consists of about 50 families of nobles, who are forbidden to intermarry with the commonalty.

These senators choose from
among

among themselves every month a president, who is called a *Doge*, the same as at Venice, and appoint one of their number (who has the appellation of Count) to travel occasionally through the country and administer justice in their tribunals.

The universal harmony and good understanding which prevail among the natives, render civil courts of justice almost unnecessary, as most disputes and private grievances are settled by arbitration, but the senate form a high court of judicature, to whom an appeal is final in all cases.

Felonious crimes are scarcely known amongst them; though about two years ago a Venetian, who came to settle in Ragusa, committed a murder, for which he was hanged the same afternoon; but as they have no public executioner in the whole country, he was taken to a Turkish market in the neighbourhood, and a gratuity of about five guineas was given to a Turk to perform the execution.

The only revenue of the government arises from custom-house duties on shipping and merchandize, out of which they pay the clergy the greatest part of their salaries, maintain free-schools all over the nation, and provide physicians to attend the sick and administer medicines without any charge to their patients.

The established religion is the Roman Catholic, and the church is governed by an archbishop, who is chosen by the nobles and confirmed by the Pope.

Divine service is read in Latin in all the churches, and the people are allowed the free use of the

Bible, the inquisition being altogether unheard of.

The people pay but a very small contribution to the clergy, they being (as before observed) principally maintained by government.

Their schools are all free and maintained at the expense of the state; in them are taught reading, writing, mathematics, &c. with the Latin and Italian languages; but the language spoken all over the country is Slavonian (or what the captain calls Hilderic.)

The government select some of the most promising youths from among the commonalty, and send them to the Universities of Sienna, Naples, Florence, Bologna, &c. to study physic, after which they are employed at the sole expense of the nation, to attend the sick and administer medicines all over their dominions.

The Raguseans appear to be exemplary in their moral deportment, as well as remarkable for peace and friendship: drunkenness is accounted scandalous among them, and not often seen; prostitutes are much discountenanced, and games of hazard are forbidden by the government, though they allow the people in some instances to play for trifles.

They have notwithstanding several prisons in which delinquents are occasionally confined, and some who have notoriously offended (especially with the tongue in cursing, swearing, and abusive language) are exposed in the public streets in a contrivance something like the pillory.

There is an hospital for the sick, which was used formerly as a poor-house in the town of Ragusa, but
about

about 15 years ago the latter was burnt down, and has not since been rebuilt: the country in general affords few examples of distress, and the people are ready to relieve each other.

In Ragusa there is also a theatre, four churches, and some smaller chapels, among which is a Jewish synagogue, and about 200 Jews reside in the city.

The first printing-office was established among them only about 15 years ago, at which books are printed in the Italian and Hilderic (or Sclavonian) languages, but no newspapers are circulated in the country.

There is an office for marine insurances in Ragusa, but their ships are frequently insured in Venice, Leghorn, Constantinople, &c.

The French, Neapolitans, Russians, Germans, and Spaniards, have each a consul settled here; though as the trade of the country is inconsiderable, and their own vessels much more than sufficient to supply it, they are seldom or never visited by ships from other nations (except such as put into their ports in distress, windbound, &c.) but a few small ones from the popish territories, Naples, and Venetian Dalmatia.

The Raguseans have notaries who make and record transfers of property, of which the parties take copies for their own satisfaction. They have no gold coins, though some Venetian sequins are circulated among them.

Their silver coins are ducats, in value about three shillings sterling, with the figure of a woman on one side, and the word 'libertas' on the other; crown = $\frac{1}{2}$ a ducat, and pearpera = $\frac{1}{3}$ of a crown.

They have a copper coin, called in Italian soldi, and in French sous, and some denarii, each containing six sous—twelve of these denarii are equal to one pearpera.

Turkish coins form the principal part of their currency; and they have also some Spanish dollars, which are sold for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ducats and 10 denarii each, sometimes a trifle more or less.

They make use of tobacco, which they procure from the Turks, and smoke in wooden pipes of considerable length, to which they often affix tops of amber very costly.

Wood is their only firing.

The mountainous nature of the country excludes the use of all wheel-carriages, but they have sedan chairs carried by men.

It is not unworthy of remark that even into this tranquil spot (which seems to enjoy all the happiness that any civil government is capable of affording) the emissaries of the French republic have endeavoured to introduce their favourite doctrines of liberty and equality, and have excited some commotions in different parts of the country among a few discontented individuals of the lowest and most profligate classes; but the bulk of the people are too well satisfied with their condition to be inclined at present to "meddle with them that are given to change."

ANECDOTES RESPECTING NEGRO SLAVERY.

From Travels in North America by Robert Sutcliffe.

I was waked early by the cries of a poor Negro, who was undergoing

going a severe correction, previously to his going to work. On taking a walk on the banks of the Rappahannock, the river on which this town (Fredericksburg) is seated, I stepped into one of the large tobacco warehouses which are built here, for the reception and inspection of that plant, before it is permitted to be exported. On entering into conversation with an inspector, as he was employed in looking over a parcel of tobacco, he lamented the licentiousness which he remarked so generally prevailed in this town. He said, that in his remembrance, the principal part of the inhabitants were emigrants from Scotland, and that it was considered so reproachful to the white inhabitants, if they were found to have an illicit connection with their female slaves, that their neighbours would shun the company of such, as of persons with whom it was a reproach to be acquainted. The case was now so much altered, that he believed there were but few slave-holders in the place who were free from guilt in this respect; and that it was now thought but little of. Such was the brutality and hardness of heart which this evil produced, that many amongst them paid no more regard to selling their own children, by their female slaves, or even their brothers and sisters, in the same line, than they would do to the disposal of a cow or a horse, or any other property in the brute creation. To so low a degree of degradation does the system of negro slavery sink the white inhabitants, who are unhappily engaged in it.

Near Bladensburg we passed a Carolina slave merchant, with a company of slaves, men, women,

and children; who all stopped at the door of the inn where we dined. Some of them appeared much dejected; and, on my questioning them, they told me they were taken from their relatives and friends by force. One of the females being known to a black man in the stage, he asked her how she came there, knowing her to be a free black. She replied, that some time since, her husband had been taken from her, and carried into the Carolinas; and that she had determined to follow him in his bondage. This appeared to be a remarkable proof of conjugal affection, and showed a high degree of sensibility; but, in thus following her husband, there is great reason to fear, from the general conduct of these slave merchants, that she herself would be sold as a slave by this man; who, under pretence of taking her to her husband, would probably betray her.

The number of black slaves kept in and near Alexandria is very great. On market days many come out of the country with fruit, vegetables, &c. and some, even girls of 10 and 12 years of age, are seen walking the streets with baskets on their heads, without any clothing. Some, both men and women, are nearly without clothing; and what little is allowed to many of them is all in rags. Their common full dress is a coarse sacking or linsey woolsey shirt and trowsers for the men; and, for the women, a long garment or a petticoat, and a short waistcoat of the same materials: both sexes go without shoes or stockings, and mostly without hats. I understood from a respectable

able person, that further to the south, he has seen, at the houses of what are called gentlemen, the young blacks waiting at table, quite naked; without discovering any appearance of shame either in master or slave.

There is a very striking contrast between the appearance of the horses or teams in Pennsylvania, and those in the Southern States where slaves are kept. In Pennsylvania we meet great numbers of waggons, drawn by four or more fine fat horses; the carriages firm and well made, and covered with stout, good linen, bleached almost white; and it is not uncommon to see 10 or 15 together, travelling cheerfully along the road, the driver riding on one of the horses. Many of these come more than 300 miles to Philadelphia, from the Ohio, Pittsburgh, and other places; and I have been told by a respectable friend, a native of Philadelphia, that more than 1,000 covered carriages frequently come to Philadelphia market. Indeed the appearance of them on market-days, in Market-street, which is two miles in length, and about 40 yards in width, is such as no stranger can have a just conception of; to say nothing of the adjoining streets, which are crowded with farmers' carts and waggons from every quarter.

The appearance of things in the Slave States is quite the reverse of this. We sometimes meet a ragged black boy or girl, driving a team consisting of a lean cow and a mule; sometimes a lean bull or an ox, and a mule; and I have seen a mule, a bull, and a cow, each miserable in its appearance, composing one team, with a half-

naked black slave or two, riding or driving, as occasion suited. The carriage or waggon, if it may be called such, appeared in as wretched a condition as the team and its driver. Sometimes a couple of horses, mules, or cows, &c. would be dragging a hogshead of tobacco, with a pivot or axle driven into each end of the hogshead, and something like a shaft attached, by which it was drawn or rolled along the road. I have seen two oxen and two slaves pretty fully employed in getting along a single hogshead; and some of these come from a great distance inland.

In conversation with H. B. he related to me an affecting narrative of a black boy, who came under the observation of his brother J. R. and resided near his dwelling at Lewis-Town, in Delaware State. It happened that the master of this poor lad had missed a piece of leather, and he charged the boy, who was his slave, with stealing it. The boy denied the charge. However, as the master was unable to discover what was become of the leather, and looked upon the denial of the charge as a thing of course, he was very much irritated that he was unable to bring any proof against the lad. In order to extort confession, the master tied him up by the hands, a considerable height from the ground, and fixed a heavy piece of wood (a fence rail) to his feet. In this situation he beat the poor boy in so unmerciful a manner, that he died under the torture thus cruelly inflicted by his brutal master. Scarcely had the poor little innocent breathed his last, under these torments, before the master's son, smitten with remorse

on being the occasion of such dreadful cruelties, confessed that it was himself who had stolen the leather, for which the poor little slave had just paid the forfeit of his life. However void of the feelings of humanity, it may well be supposed that this hard-hearted master was not a little mortified at having wantonly put to death a valuable slave; but such was the protection which that State afforded these oppressed fellow-creatures, that the master escaped punishment, as is commonly the case on occasions of murder committed by the whites on their black slaves.

E. W. gave me an affecting account of a black slave, residing near his house, who is a pattern of integrity and industry. Such is the confidence reposed in him by his master, that for many years past it has been his practice to send this slave to Baltimore, with his waggon laden with various kinds of produce, the sale of which he intrusts to this black man; also the care of receiving and bringing home the money; by which means it frequently happens that large sums of money pass through his hands. This service he has performed so much to the satisfaction of his master, that he scarcely ever ventures to employ any other person for these purposes.

This faithful slave has a wife and a large family of children, who reside in a hut close by his master's house. He is allowed a small portion of time weekly to do something for himself and family; and being frequently employed by the neighbours to do little errands for them in Baltimore, he has, during many years of care, and frequently by hard labour when others were

at rest, scraped together about 200*l*. He lately made an offer of all this to his master for the freedom of his family; but the master absolutely refused to give him his liberty on any condition, alleging that he could not meet with another in whom he could so confide.

The poor man had greatly flattered himself with hopes, that considering his time of life, being now about 50 years old, a much smaller sum would have procured his liberty; and it would indeed have purchased that of almost any other slave in the neighbourhood. On finding his master inexorable, his disappointment and distress were extreme, and, in the anguish of his heart, he determined to leave his wife and children, and take the first opportunity of quitting the country for ever. However he concluded first to call on E. W. who had always been his friend and adviser, to inform him of his resolution. E. W. sympathized with him in his affliction, but did not let that suffice; for he went immediately to the master, and used every endeavour to prevail upon him to accept the money offered, and to grant the man and his family their freedom. In order to induce the master's compliance, E. W. represented to him the exceedingly ungenerous return he was making to the poor man for his fidelity and industry; as the only plea urged by this unfeeling master, for his cruel conduct, was the uprightness and integrity of the slave! But, alas! avarice is deaf to all arguments except those of self-interest; it was therefore in vain that E. W. thus pleaded the cause of suffering virtue; for the hardened task-master was inexorable

exorable to all his reasonings; and the poor black man and his family remain in bondage, living witnesses to what a pitch of obduracy, avarice, and self-interest can harden the heart of man.

I supped and spent the evening at R. B.'s, at Merion, and observed in his yard a negro of an interesting countenance. On inquiring who he was, H. B. informed me, that a few days ago the poor man came up from Delaware State, and, at the recommendation of his brother, H. B. had taken him into his family for protection. At the same time he related to me the following narrative:—Some time since the master of this black slave died, leaving behind him a widow, and one son, a profligate young man. As the master lay on his death-bed, he called this faithful slave to him, and taking him by the hand, told him that he felt his end was fast approaching, and that his mistress would have little to depend upon for her support, except what she might be able to make of his labour; and therefore he begged that he would continue to be faithful to her, after the master should be laid in the silent grave. In a very short time the master died, and the slave continued his services to his mistress, and much to her satisfaction; enabling her, for several years, to live comfortably, and also to administer to the wants of her profligate son; so that, under a grateful sense of his worth, she determined to make this black man free, and also his family, consisting of a wife and three children. A writing was accordingly drawn up, and duly executed, whereby they were all liberated; and the

happiness of this family, under these circumstances, may be more easily conceived than described.

Their industry and sobriety, manifested whilst in bondage, now had its full effect; and all went on happily and comfortably, until the profligate son, before mentioned, who had by idleness and drunkenness reduced himself to extreme necessity, conceived the cruel plan of invalidating the indenture which his mother had executed, to give this worthy negro family their liberty; and actually sold the father, mother, and the three children, to a company of Georgia slave dealers, who were then in the neighbourhood. They being conscious that the young man had no right thus to sell the family, had determined to take them away in the dead of the night, to preclude the possibility of applying to any magistrate for protection. However, the negro had got some intimation of what was going forward, and, in consequence, kept loaded fire arms in his house, being determined to shoot any person who should attempt to break into his habitation. These precautions being known to the slave dealers, they, for some time, did not venture to molest him; but he and his wife being soon wearied with living in this state of anxious suspense, consulted a fellow negro, in whom they placed confidence, as to their best method of proceeding; and it was concluded that the whole family should leave that part of the country, and settle in Pennsylvania, as soon as possible; where they would be out of the reach of the slave dealers.

No sooner was this determination come to, than their perfidious friend,

friend, for the sake of a trifling reward, went to the Georgia slave traders, to betray the whole family into their hands; and, in the middle of the night, they were seized, bound, and forcibly taken from their comfortable habitation, in order to be put on board a small sloop which lay in the river, near at hand. On coming near the river, the poor black man, who had been placed on horseback, behind one of these Georgia men, suddenly broke loose, and leaping from the horse, plunged headlong into the river, which he quickly swam across, and, getting into the woods, escaped from his inhuman pursuers. On this occasion, the agitation of the poor wife and children was beyond expression; and to silence the shrieks and cries of this miserable family, these unprincipled men beat them unmercifully; and the last which the poor negro man saw of this scene, as he fled into the woods was, their beating his wife upon the head, in the most brutal manner. To a person who has not been an eye-witness to such scenes, it may appear incredible that transactions of so atrocious a nature, could occur under a form of government like that of the United States; but the slavery of the negroes having long since been introduced, the evil consequences resulting from it have not yet been rooted out of the Southern States; where a warm climate seems to have enervated both the bodies and the minds of the white inhabitants. It is, however, to the credit of the people of Pennsylvania, and the States to the eastward and northward of them, that almost every thing in their power has been done, to induce

their Southern neighbours to relinquish the infamous and debasing system of personal slavery; and there can be scarcely a doubt, if they persevere in their honourable endeavours, that they will, in the end, be crowned with success.

*Settlers on the Banks of the Ohio,
from the same.*

This afternoon, at B. J.'s, one of our company was a young woman who was there on a visit. Her usual residence was in one of the new settlements, on the banks of the Ohio, about 500 miles from Philadelphia. She informed us that many families on the banks of this great river, are supplied with shop goods from vessels which navigate it, and are fitted up with counters, shelves, and drawers, in the same manner as are shops on land, and well stored with all kinds of goods. As they sail along the river, on coming near a plantation, they blow a horn or conch shell, to give notice of their arrival; when the planters, with their wives and daughters, repair to these floating shops, and select such things as they are in want of; and make payment in the produce of their plantations; such as grain, flour, cotton, tobacco, dried venison, the skins of wild animals, &c. &c. The shopkeeper having disposed of his goods in this way, returns home with the produce he has collected; and again renews his stock, and proceeds on another voyage. The young woman remarked, that four or five of these floating shops would pass by her father's house, in the course of a day.

She likewise informed us, such was the primitive simplicity in which

which they lived, that it was a very unusual thing to have locks to their doors; and that when more strangers called upon them, than they had beds to accommodate them with, it was customary for the family to spread temporary beds upon the floor, on which they passed the night, leaving their own to the strangers.

An Indian Village, from the same.

: In the evening I came to an Indian village, called Brothertown. Here I was comfortably accommodated at the house of an Indian, whose name was Obadiah Scipio. His wife Elizabeth is the daughter of an Indian chief of the name of Fowler. She was a personable woman, and of an expressive countenance, and was very industrious. Her dairy produced excellent cheese and butter, notwithstanding a great part of her time was employed in spinning for the family apparel, which was very decent. It was mostly prepared for the weaver by her own household; and, whilst I was in the house, a female weaver of the village brought in a piece of cloth made from yarn spun in this family, which was such as would have done credit to any female in England. This reputable Indian couple had four fine healthy children, who sat by the fire; and, though of a copper colour, their countenances were far from unpleasing. Their names were Denis, Calvin, Cinthia, and Celinda.

The schoolmaster of this Indian village, who is paid by friends, introduced me to a chief of the name of Hendricks, with whom I had some conversation; and we sat

about an hour by the fire-side of a pretty large family of Indians, where it was pleasant to see the spinning-wheel go briskly round. There were 16 or 18 Indians round the fire; the older part of the family sat on a bench in front, and the little Indians on the ground on each side. The fire was made at the end of the building, and the smoke found its way through the roof, without the aid of a chimney. The walls and roof were hung with ears of Indian corn, and other winter provisions. It is difficult to describe my feelings, on sitting down with an Indian family in this way.

I spent the remainder of this evening by Scipio's fire-side, and was accommodated with a good bed at night, on which I slept comfortably. Both the sides and ceiling of that part of the building in which I lodged, were covered with ears of Indian corn in the husk; which, to me, had a novel, but not an unpleasant appearance.

From the Indian village of Brothertown, I came to another settlement of theirs, called the Orchard. Many of their habitations are formed principally of the bark of trees, attached to posts, which are fixed in the ground; the roofs being also of bark; but as it is taken off the trees in broad pieces, they contrive to make a pretty warm dwelling. A few chiefs, and others, have good houses of wood, well furnished; and some of the Indians, being very good workmen, and having complete sets of tools, I have seen houses of their building superior to many in England.

As the whole of this day's journey lay amongst the Indians,

whose habitations are pretty numerous in this quarter, I had a fair opportunity of forming some judgment of the progress they have made in the useful arts of civilized life : and I confess it is my opinion, that many in these villages are further advanced in this respect, and enjoy more of the comforts of life, than many of the inhabitants of the remote parts of Great Britain and Ireland.

In passing by one of their habitations, I noticed the Indian manner of preparing deer skins for use. After taking off the hair, they sew up the skin like a bag ; and one end being suspended by a support, the lower end is brought close over a vessel, containing a small fire, of green wood, at the bottom. The pyroligneus acid ascending with the smoke, so impregnates the skin, that it becomes a durable and elastic leather ; very suitable for their shoes, or moccasons, and other useful purposes. This operation was going forward under the piazza of a very good frame-house ; and, from the appearance of the inhabitants, I suppose the master was a chief of the first order. Upon his head he had a very grotesque kind of cap, much

resembling a lofty antique helmet. His daughter, who appeared to be a girl about 13 years old, had a very pleasing Indian countenance ; and her arms were ornamented with silver bracelets of considerable breadth, both above and below the elbow. Though her dress was entirely in the Indian fashion, with moccasons, leggins, blanket, &c., yet being neat, clean, and of finer materials than usual, she had not an inelegant appearance. These people understood a little English ; but, at several of their habitations, where I called in the course of the day, they either could not or would not understand what I said. Some of the younger boys and girls laughed immoderately, on my inquiring of them the road, but without being able, seemingly, to give me any other answer. As I went along, I met with two clever-looking Indian young men, carpenters, having their tools with them. And under the piazza of a commodious Indian dwelling, I saw, hung up in neat order, the harness and yokes of horses and oxen. There was also a good farm-yard, surrounded with barns and stables, the whole having every appearance of good management.

NATURAL HISTORY.

A NARRATIVE OF THE ERUPTION
OF A VOLCANO IN THE SEA OFF
THE ISLAND OF ST. MICHAEL.
*By S. Tillard, Esq. Captain in
the Royal Navy. Philos. Trans.*

APPROACHING the island of St. Michael's, on Sunday the 12th of June, 1811, in his majesty's sloop *Sabrina*, under my command, we occasionally observed, rising in the horizon, two or three columns of smoke, such as would have been occasioned by an action between two ships, to which cause we universally attributed its origin. This opinion was, however, in a very short time changed, from the smoke increasing and ascending in much larger bodies than could possibly have been produced by such an event; and having heard an account prior to our sailing from Lisbon, that in the preceding January or February a volcano had burst out within the sea near St. Michael's, we immediately concluded, that the smoke we saw proceeded from this cause, and on our anchoring the next morning in the road of Ponta del Gada, we found this conjecture correct as to the cause, but not to the time; the eruption of January having totally subsided, and the present

one having only burst forth two days prior to our approach, and about three miles distant from the one before alluded to.

Desirous of examining as minutely as possible a contention so extraordinary between two such powerful elements, I set off from the city of Ponta del Gada on the morning of the 14th, in company with Mr. Read, the consul general of the Azores, and two other gentlemen. After riding about twenty miles across the N. W. end of the island of St. Michael's, we came to the edge of a cliff, whence the volcano burst suddenly upon our view in the most terrific and awful grandeur. It was only a short mile from the base of the cliff, which was nearly perpendicular, and formed the margin of the sea; this cliff being as nearly as I could judge from three to four hundred feet high. To give you an adequate idea of the scene by description is far beyond my powers; but for your satisfaction I shall attempt it.

Imagine an immense body of smoke rising from the sea, the surface of which was marked by the silvery rippling of the waves, occasioned by the light and steady breezes incidental to those climates

in

in summer. In a quiescent state, it had the appearance of a circular cloud revolving on the water like a horizontal wheel, in various and irregular involutions, expanding itself gradually on the lee side; when suddenly a column of the blackest cinders, ashes, and stones would shoot up in form of a spire at an angle of from ten to twenty degrees from a perpendicular line, the angle of inclination being universally to windward: this was rapidly succeeded by a second, third, and fourth, each acquiring greater velocity, and overtopping the other till they had attained an altitude as much above the level of our eye, as the sea was below it.

As the impetus with which the columns were severally propelled diminished, and their ascending motion had nearly ceased, they broke into various branches resembling a group of pines, these again forming themselves into festoons of white feathery smoke in the most fanciful manner imaginable, intermixed with the finest particles of falling ashes; which at one time assumed the appearance of innumerable plumes of black and white ostrich feathers surmounting each other; at another, that of the light wavy branches of a weeping willow.

During these bursts, the most vivid flashes of lightning continually issued from the densest part of the volcano; and the cloud of smoke now ascending to an altitude much above the highest point to which the ashes were projected, rolled off in large masses of fleecy clouds, gradually expanding themselves before the wind in a direction nearly horizontal, and drawing up to them a quantity of water-spouts,

which formed a most beautiful and striking addition to the general appearance of the scene.

That part of the sea, where the volcano was situate, was upwards of thirty fathoms deep, and at the time of our viewing it, the volcano was only four days old. Soon after our arrival on the cliff, a peasant observed he could discern a peak above the water: we looked, but could not see it; however, in less than half an hour it was plainly visible, and before we quitted the place, which was about three hours from the time of our arrival, a complete crater was formed above the water, not less than twenty feet high on the side where the greatest quantity of ashes fell; the diameter of the crater being apparently about four or five hundred feet.

The great eruptions were generally attended with a noise like the continued firing of cannon and musquetry intermixed, as also with slight shocks of earthquakes, several of which having been felt by my companions, but none by myself, I had become half sceptical, and thought their opinion arose merely from the force of imagination; but while we were sitting within five or six yards of the edge of the cliff, partaking of a slight repast which had been brought with us, and were all busily engaged, one of the most magnificent bursts took place which we had yet witnessed, accompanied by a very severe shock of an earthquake. The instantaneous and involuntary movement of each was to spring upon his feet, and I said "this admits of no doubt." The words had scarce passed my lips, before we observed a large portion of the
face

face of the cliff, about fifty yards on our left, falling, which it did with a violent crash. So soon as our first consternation had a little subsided, we removed about ten or a dozen yards farther from the edge of the cliff, and finished our dinner.

On the succeeding day, June 15th, having the consul and some other friends on board, I weighed, and proceeded with the ship towards the volcano, with the intention of witnessing a night view; but in this expectation we were greatly disappointed, from the wind freshening and the weather becoming thick and hazy, and also from the volcano itself being clearly more quiescent than it was the preceding day. It seldom emitted any lightning, but occasionally as much flame as may be seen to issue from the top of a glass-house, or foundery chimney.

On passing directly under the great cloud of smoke, about three or four miles distant from the volcano, the decks of the ship were covered with fine black ashes, which fell intermixed with small rain. We returned the next morning, and late on the evening of the same day, I took my leave of St. Michael's to complete my cruise.

On opening the volcano clear of the N.W. part of the island, after dark on the 16th, we witnessed one or two eruptions that, had the ship been near enough, would have been awfully grand. It appeared one continued blaze of lightning; but the distance which it was at from the ship, upwards of twenty miles, prevented our seeing it with effect.

Returning again towards St. Mi-

chael's on the 4th of July, I was obliged, by the state of the wind, to pass with the ship very close to the island, which was now completely formed by the volcano, being nearly the height of Matlock High Tor, about eighty yards above the sea. At this time it was perfectly tranquil, which circumstance determined me to land, and explore it more narrowly.

I left the ship in one of the boats, accompanied by some of the officers. As we approached, we perceived it was still smoking in many parts, and upon our reaching the island found the surf on the beach very high. Rowing round to the lee side, with some little difficulty, by the aid of an oar, as a pole, I jumped on shore, and was followed by the other officers. We found a narrow beach of black ashes, from which the side of the island rose in general too steep to admit of our ascending; and where we could have clambered up, the mass of matter was much too hot to allow our proceeding more than a few yards in the ascent.

The declivity below the surface of the sea was equally steep, having seven fathoms water, scarce the boat's length from the shore, and at the distance of twenty or thirty yards we sounded twenty-five fathoms.

From walking round it, in about twelve minutes, I should judge that it was something less than a mile in circumference; but the most extraordinary part was the crater, the mouth of which, on the side facing St. Michael's, was nearly level with the sea. It was filled with water, at that time boiling, and was emptying itself into the sea, by a small stream about six yards

yards over, and by which I should suppose it was continually filled again at high water. This stream, close to the edge of the sea, was so hot, as only to admit the finger to be dipped suddenly in, and taken out again immediately.

It appeared evident, by the formation of this part of the island, that the sea had, during the eruptions, broke into the crater in two places, as the east side of the small stream was bounded by a precipice, a cliff between twenty and thirty feet high forming a peninsula of about the same dimensions in width, and from fifty to sixty feet long, connected with the other part of the island by a narrow ridge of cinders and lava, as an isthmus of from forty to fifty feet in length, from which the crater rose in the form of an amphitheatre.

This cliff, at two or three miles distance from the island, had the appearance of a work of art resembling a small fort or block house. The top of this we were determined, if possible, to attain; but the difficulty we had to encounter in doing so was considerable; the only way to attempt it was up the side of the isthmus, which was so steep, that the only mode by which we could effect it, was by fixing the end of an oar at the base, with the assistance of which we forced ourselves up in nearly a backward direction.

Having reached the summit of the isthmus, we found another difficulty, for it was impossible to walk upon it, as the descent on the other side was immediate, and as steep as the one we had ascended; but by throwing our legs across it, as would be done on the ridge of a house, and moving our-

selves forward by our hands, we at length reached that part of it where it gradually widened itself, and formed the summit of the cliff, which we found to have a perfectly flat surface, of the dimensions before stated.

Judging this to be the most conspicuous situation, we here planted the union, and left a bottle sealed up containing a small account of the origin of the island, and of our having landed upon it, and naming it Sabrina Island.

Within the crater I found the complete skeleton of a guard-fish, the bones of which, being perfectly burnt, fell to pieces upon attempting to take them up; and by the account of the inhabitants on the coast of St. Michael's great numbers of fish had been destroyed during the early part of the eruption, as large quantities, probably suffocated or poisoned, were occasionally found drifted into the small inlets or bays.

The island, like other volcanic productions, is composed principally of porous substances, and generally burnt to complete cinders, with occasional masses of a stone, which I should suppose to be a mixture of iron and lime-stone; but have sent you specimens to enable you to form a better judgment than you possibly can by any description of mine,

ON SOME EXOTICS WHICH ENDURE
THE OPEN AIR IN DEVONSHIRE.

*In a Letter to the Right Hon. Sir
Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. &c.
By A. Hawkins, Esq.*

Sir;
Though I have no knowledge
of

of the Horticultural Society, but through the medium of extracts in the last Monthly Review (which informed me of its existence), yet, struck with your "Hints respecting the proper Mode of inuring tender Plants to our Climate," and residing in the very warmest part of England (the South Hams of Devonshire, of which I am a native), within view of an inlet of the sea, I am led to state to you some facts, that perhaps may not be wholly unworthy of notice.

In October, 1795, a *camellia japonica* was planted here among other shrubs in the open ground; it has stood every winter since, without the smallest shelter, thrives well, and has never had a branch or leaf injured by the weather; it is now about four feet high, the size of a gooseberry bush, but has not flowered.

Two plants of the *fuchsia coccinea* were planted about four years ago under a brick wall facing the south. At first the branches suffered by the frost, but they put forth new shoots in the spring, with much strength, and have flowered well every summer. During the last two years I was absent, but I understand, that only the extremities of the branches were injured, and they have always flowered in great perfection.

Some plants of *solanum pseudocapsicum*, or *amomum Plinii*, are also under a brick wall (but not nailed against it), which have stood many years, and only a small part of the very extremities of their branches has been injured by frost.

Myrtles of every kind (even the double blossomed and orange) do exceedingly well in the open ground, though the silver, from

the richness of the soil, soon becomes plain.

The *buddlea globosa* likewise stands the climate; and some of the plants are ten feet high, spread wide, and make a handsome appearance. One of them is placed in a situation open to the north-east winds, where the sun cannot shine during the short days, yet it has stood there since 1794, and never had more than the extremities of the branches hurt.

About two miles from my house is the small seaport town of Salcombe, just between those two well known points, the Prawl and Bolt-head, the latter of which is in the parish whence this letter is written, a place that the sea washes on three sides. Perhaps of all spots in the British isles, Salcombe is the very first for climate and shelter. The celebrated Doctor Huxham used to call it the Montpellier of England. In 1774, a large American aloe, only twenty-eight years old, and which had always stood in the open ground, without covering, flowered there; it grew to the height of twenty-eight feet, the leaves were six inches thick and nine feet in length, and the flowers, on forty-two branches, innumerable.

Several plants of the *verbena triphylla* are growing at Salcombe in the open ground, and are now six feet high. I have not tried any of them myself; but as I expect to be more at home in future, than for some years past, I shall not fail to add this plant to those tender shrubs already growing around me.

Oranges and lemons, trained as peach trees against walls, and sheltered only with mats of straw during

during the winter, have been seen in a few gardens of the south of Devonshire for these hundred years. The fruit is as large and fine as any from Portugal; some lemons from a garden near this place were, about thirty-five or forty years ago, presented to the king by the late Earl Poulett, from his sister, Lady Bridget Bastard, of Gerston; and there are trees still in the neighbourhood, the planting of which, I believe, is beyond memory. The late Mr. Pollexfen Bastard (uncle of the M. P. for Devon), who had the greatest number of oranges and lemons of any one in this country, remarked above thirty years since (what tends to confirm your experiments), that he found trees raised from seed, and inoculated in his own garden, bore the cold better than oranges and lemons imported.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

A. HAWKINS.

*Alston, near Kingsbridge,
Devon, Dec. 11, 1809.*

ACCOUNT OF THE VICUNA. *By
Mr. Larrey, Physician in Chief
of the Imperial Guard, one of the
Inspectors General of Military
Hospitals, &c.*

*From Nicholson's Philosophical
Magazine.*

A merchant of Cadiz, a lover of natural history, brought from Peru two young vicunas, a male and female. He first landed them at Cadiz at the beginning of the year 1808; and toward the end of April in the same year conveyed them to Madrid. They did not appear to be inconvenienced by the change of climate, or difference of food,

till the weather began to get very hot. They were very badly lodged in a small, dark room, not well ventilated. In this hole I had an opportunity of seeing them, examining their figure and gait, and studying their manners and habits.

The female, which was larger and older than the male, being about three feet high, died soon after, during a short tour I made in the neighbourhood of Madrid to inspect the hospitals. I could not learn the cause of her death; but, as the body quickly putrefied, it was thrown into the fields.

On my return I hastened to visit the two strangers, but found only the male, sad, dejected, and uttering plaintive cries at the slightest touch. He ate but little, and remained constantly squatted on his four legs; but he appeared better and more lively in the cool of the evening and morning, which he seemed to seek; while in the heat of the day he was overcome, and breathed with difficulty. Thus melancholy and unwell he passed the first week of June; and about the 15th symptoms of inflammation appeared, a few days after which he died.

Foreseeing this event, I had obtained permission of the owner to dissect the animal after his death, and dispose of his skin. My first care was to remove this with due caution, that I might be able to preserve the natural shape of the animal in stuffing it: after which I proceeded to examine the viscera, the articulations, and the general disposition of the muscles.

On opening the abdomen I found the linea alba, or aponeurosis uniting the large muscles, was extremely strong, and much thicker than

than is usually observed in other quadrupeds.

The viscera of the abdomen exhibited marks of the inflammation I have mentioned. The stomachs were distended with gas, and the mucous membrane inflamed. The epidermis of the ruminating stomach had already peeled off, and the intestines were nearly in the same state. There was no urine in the bladder. The epiploons exhibited nothing but very thin membranous skins destitute of fat.

The distribution and figure of the stomachs were the same as in the camel. The second was full of vesicles, from which a serous or aqueous fluid issued abundantly. The paunch and the other two stomachs did not differ in the interior form of their cavities from those of the camel. The cellular stomach was remarkable for the internal arrangement of the cells; they having apertures of communication furnished with membranous valves, which no doubt may still be discovered in the dried stomach of the animal. The last stomach is united to a portion of intestine, which may be considered as the duodenum. This was continued in another intestine of equal bulk, which, after forming an arch in the circumference of the abdomen, terminated in the left lumbar region in a cul-de-sac; whence issued another intestinal tube, very slender and smooth, and forming ten or twelve concentric circles in the space made by the former. The circumvolutions were attached to a common mesentery. This slender intestine afterward made a thousand circumvolutions in the abdomen, terminating at length in another cæcum

without an appendage like the former; whence issued a portion of intestine of considerable bulk, which, after forming two or three curves in the manner of a colon, terminated in the rectum.

Thus it appears, that the vicuña has three sets of intestines, the first and third large, and the middle slender.

I met with no worms in the intestines, the infinite windings and intersections of which would appear favourable to their formation.

The liver, which I did not at first perceive, was found deeply concealed behind the stomach, and attached by very close membranous ligaments to the crura of the diaphragm, and to the corresponding dorsal vertebræ. It was of very small bulk, of an oval figure, flattened transversely, and exhibiting two lobules at its anterior edge. It was destitute of a gall bladder; and the bile was taken directly from the liver by a duct, that conveyed it into a portion of the duodenum. This duct and the vena portæ crossed each other.

The spleen, which was likewise very small, and of a rounded form, was situate in the left lumbar region, contiguous to the kidney of the same side. These two organs were inclosed in one common duplicature of the peritoneum.

The lungs exhibited nothing remarkable. They partook of the general inflammation, and the bronchiæ were filled with a frothy sanguineous fluid. The trachea and larynx had the same figure and organization as those of the camel.

The heart, which was of a size proportional to the animal, formed almost a perfect cone; only its point, which was very acute, curved

ed upwards and to the left, and the cavity of the ventricle on that side reached to the point.

I did not see the brain, as I wished to preserve the skull entire.

After having examined the viscera of the animal, I proceeded with the dissection. The cartilaginous state of the extremities of the bones did not allow me to make an artificial skeleton of them.

Among the bony parts of the thorax the sternum merits some attention. It is in a horizontal plane, like that of the camel thick, rounded on its outward surface, and covered in the natural state with a fatty substance of a close texture. The integuments on this part are much thicker than elsewhere. This bone was intended to serve as a point of support for the animal when lying down; and the almost constant use he made of it during his illness had pressed the extremities of the sternocostal cartilages inwards. The middle, spinal apophyses of the vertebræ formed a gibbosity, which, if it had been covered externally by a little fat, would have resembled the bunch of the camel. The remainder of the vertebral column inclined imperceptibly towards the pelvis, which was of itself inclined and of small capacity. The edges of the haunch bones were cartilaginous. The sacrum was lengthened by a series of caudal vertebræ, so as to form a tail in every respect similar to that of the camel.

The scapulæ, very thin and without clavicles, were connected with the trunk only by means of scapular muscles, as in the camel. The cervical vertebræ formed a very long column, curving from below up-

ward, so as to give the neck the same figure and length in proportion to the size of the animal as those of the camel. As in the latter, these vertebræ had no spinal apophyses; but a very strong cervical ligament, extending from the occiput to the spine of the first dorsal vertebræ, supplied their place for the attachment of the muscles, and kept the head and vertebræ in their proper position. The interior face of these vertebræ had a longitudinal hollow, adapted for the reception of the trachea and œsophagus.

The head of the vicuña has the same shape and external characters as that of the camel. The jaws have the same number of grinding teeth. The lower has only four cutting teeth, the middlemost of which are the most prominent. The upper has none, as in other ruminating animals.

The fore and hind limbs in every respect resemble those of the camel.

The joints of the limbs form a perfect ginglymus, admitting a direct and complete flexure of one part against the next, so that this animal, like the camel, bends all his four legs underneath his breast when he lies down; and this double flexure is the effect of the natural structure of the limbs, as in the camel, which I had an opportunity of studying in Egypt, and of examining from its birth to its adult age. It is not therefore the result of training.

The feet of the vicuña are terminated by two, long, narrow, soft soles: and have much resemblance to the feet of young camels.

The outward figure of the head perfectly resembles that of a young camel,

Camel, except in the ears, which are erect and smooth like those of a kangaroo. The neck, body, and limbs are similarly disposed; and the body, like it, is covered with a fawn-coloured, silky wool, but of extreme fineness. From it may be made stuffs as soft and fine as the shawls of Casimire. This tufted fleece keeps the animal so warm, that it seeks and prefers for its habitation the summits of mountains covered with snow. If the ears of this animal were uniformly cut, it would exactly resemble a camel two or three months old.

The vicuña has the same cries as the camel, the same gait, and nearly the same disposition. It is extremely shy and timid. It utters plaintive cries at the least unpleasant sensations; and when too much alarmed, its eyes are filled with tears. The very active movement of its tail and ears indicate its different sensations. It is very gentle and caressing when tamed.

The resemblance the vicuña bears to the camel in its external figure, internal structure, and qualities, would lead me to call it *camelus parvus auribus rectis*, the little camel with erect ears.

The owner of the animal gave me the following account of the Peruvian mode of hunting it:

The vicuñas commonly inhabit the frozen summits of the high mountains of the Cordilleras. Several of the inhabitants assemble together to hunt them. They first surround the mountain where they are most numerous; and by means of mournful cries, or the discordant sound of large wind instruments, as hunting horns, they terrify the animals, who take flight to the

summit of the mountain, where no doubt they suppose themselves inaccessible. Here the hunters form a line of circumvallation with stakes, on which are small red flags. These stakes are connected with each other by cords placed pretty close. Two or three hunters then attack the herd, which disperses. Frequently some of the vicuñas are surprised, and the rest rush down the mountain; but as soon as they reach the fence, instead of leaping over it, which they might easily do, terrified at the colour of the flags, they crouch down in the snow, or in holes, where hunters posted for the purpose easily take them. After tying their legs, they carry them to a convenient place, to shear their fleeces. If the animals be old, they let them loose: if young, they take them to their huts, keep them, and train them to carry burdens, loading them in the same manner as camels. They cannot live in the burning plains of America, and accordingly the inhabitants of the mountains alone can keep them. This no doubt is the reason why the animal has been hitherto so little known.

When the animal is young, its flesh is good eating; but the wool is justly in high estimation. The merchant assured me, that it was seldom sent to Europe pure, being almost always mixed with other wool of less value.

I think with him, that it might be naturalized and breed in the Pyrennees, on the summit of which the snow scarcely ever thaws; particularly as the pasture there is excellent.

ON THE CORAL FISHERY IN THE
SICILIAN SEAS.*By Alfio Ferrara, M. D.**(From the same.)*

Having for a long time employed myself in the study of the various natural productions, with which the sea that bathes the Sicilian shores abounds, the coral was the first object to attract my notice. This beautiful and elegant ornament of the sea could not fail of deserving first to come under my examination. I have been frequently present at the fishing of it, near the coast of Sicily: I have contemplated it in the very bottom of the sea, on its native spot: I have gathered it from stones, and shells, and other marine substances, recently taken out of the sea: I have had it worked in my presence: I have analysed the several varieties of it: in fine, I have extended my researches to whatever would give me the least insight into the nature of this substance, comparing the results of my own observations with every thing the ancients and moderns have written on the subject, and consulting in every point the treasures of natural history, with which the present day has been so abundantly enriched by the accurate experiments and luminous theories of the many great men of the last century.

I have endeavoured in the present memoir to establish a clear and precise notion of the origin, increase, and nature of coral. This work has been the more pleasing to me, as I flatter myself I have been able not only to confirm, by my own observations, what has been already written on the subject by former Philosophers and Na-

turalists, but to add some new facts, that may tend to elucidate the history of this marine production, which has at all times as much occupied the researches of naturalists, as it has engaged the admiration of the fair sex, with whom the beauty of its colour, and brilliancy of its texture, have rendered it a favourite ornament of dress.

The ancients, attending only to its external form, conceived coral to be a plant; to which from its ramifications it bears some resemblance, and named it lithodendron, or stony plant, on account of its hardness. It was so called by Dioscorides and Pliny. These authors and their contemporaries did not attempt to contradict by the most trifling examination, what the poet Ovid (his head full of transformations) had asserted: that under the water it was a soft plant, but, immediately on being taken from the sea, became hard. This opinion prevailed for a long time, and was encouraged in later times by many great naturalists. Of this number was the celebrated Cesalpino.

Our Baccone, who took much pains to investigate the nature of coral, could not divest himself of this idea; but, gifted as he was with great sagacity and penetration, not being convinced, either from his own observations or those of others, that coral was a mere plant, and still less that it was a stone, he imagined, that the milky juice, which drops from the pores of fresh coral, was its seed; which, being dispersed in the sea, is precipitated and gradually accumulated in a regular form in the capsules nature provides for it.

This

This opinion, tending to alienate naturalists from the belief of the vegetable nature of coral, was entirely removed by the publication of the valuable and erudite work of the celebrated conte Marsigli, entitled *Storia de Mare*; who, led away by his imagination, or rather deriving little aid from the state of natural philosophy at that time, suggested the idea, that the moveable substances at the extremity of the branches were the octopetalous flowers of the coral, and thus revived the old opinion.

Tournefort, who, in the pursuit of his favourite study of botany, had remarked the vegetation of stones in the grotto of Antiparos, eagerly adopted this idea; and was followed by Ray, Boerhaave, Klein, and many others of that time.

No sooner had naturalists begun again to take up the observations of Baccone, than they discovered in the hard substance of coral a sort of earthy concretion; but this not being sufficient to induce them to expunge it from the list of vegetable substances, they considered it as a marine plant encrusted with calcareous earth deposited by the sea. Lehman was of this opinion, to which the mineralogist Beaumer was also much inclined.

Our Ferrante Imperato, in his work on natural history (which, like many other works of the ancients, has been almost buried in oblivion, though well deserving our attention from its containing the principles of many important truths, which have since been brought to light), had already supposed, that some of the species of coral were merely the habitation of marine worms. This opinion had so much

of probability, that it has always been entertained by naturalists since; and the discovery of the polypi assists to explain on solid principles the true nature and origin of coral: and on this account the works of Peyssonnel, Jussieu, Guetard, Trembley, Reaumur, Donati, Ellis, Pallas, Cavolini, Spallanzani, and many others, on coral, became so interesting. Coral is found round nearly all the Mediterranean islands. Pliny and Dioscorides speak much in praise of that found in the Sicilian seas in their time. It is fished for at present on every part of the shores of Sicily.

The Messineze collect a great quantity in those straits, even as far as Melazzo; but the Trapanese, who are chiefly employed in working the coral, not only fish it in the neighbouring seas about the Eolian and other islands, but extend their search to all the southern shores as far as Cape Passaro, and beyond Syracuse, and even to the coast of Barbary. They are obliged to occupy so large an extent of sea, as they cannot fish again on the same spot for several years, the re-production of coral requiring a great length of time, even nearly eight years. I have myself collected it on the shores of Catania, and thence as far as Taormina.

The instrument with which the coral is detached from the bottom of the sea has been known a long time. It is composed of a large wooden cross, having fastened to each of its four extremities nets sufficiently capacious to inclose the coral, which is broken from its root by a large stone hanging from the center of the cross. The instrument

strument is let down by two ropes from the boats employed in this fishery into the sea, and after remaining a sufficient time it is drawn up by a windlass. The Trapanese claim the invention of this machine.

From my own observations, and from the most accurate information I have been able to obtain from the people employed in this fishery, I am persuaded, that the coral grows indiscriminately on all hard substances, as rocks, shells, &c.—I have seen it attached to an earthen vessel, which had at some time fallen into the sea, and was taken out in my presence. The usual appearance of coral is that of a tree without leaves. It never grows to a greater height than twelve inches, and is seldom an inch thick. The direction of its branches extends always forwards from the spot to which the root is attached; therefore when it grows on the top of a cavern they spread downwards; if from a horizontal surface upwards: most commonly however the branches extend downwards, which enables the nets to inclose it with greater facility when detached by the stone.

It has been constantly remarked, that the broken branches of coral attach themselves to some hard substances where they continue their growth. It is very common to find many branches of coral, when taken out of the sea, perforated in several parts. There can be no doubt, that this is the work of the lithophagi; worms which attack even the hardest substances, for it is well known that they pierce and destroy the hardest carbonate of lime. The coral (*isis nobilis* Linnæi) which is

most eagerly sought after, is of a fine red colour. Artists and ladies give it the preference. It improves the charms of a beautiful face. Naturalists describe all the varieties; two original colours in coral may be established, white and red, as the two extremes, the gradations of shade from the one to the other producing infinite varieties, among which five principal may be distinguished.

1st. The deep red coral resembling in colour minium. This is considered as the most perfect sort; in fact, it is the largest and most dense, and receives the highest polish. It is commonly called the male coral.

2d. Red coral. This is more or less clear, but always less brilliant than the first variety.

3d. Flesh coloured coral. The ancients call it light red.

4th. Dull white coral; by some it is called fawn coloured, from its resemblance to the colour of the fawn.

5th. Clear white coral. All these varieties are found in the seas round the island, sometimes on the same spot. The first and second are not so abundant or common as the others.

The extremities of coral, when extracted from the sea, are swelled and rounded, resembling juniper berries. Probably these were the berries remarked by Pliny, which he considered as the fruit of the coral; although in his work he asserts that they are white and soft under water, and become hard and red out of it. I am inclined to believe, either, that he wrote from the report of others, or that he has mistaken for them the red globules formed by the artist.

These

These extremities, when pressed, give out a white unctuous fluid resembling milk, which has a sour taste. It was formerly thought to be the seed and nutritious juice of the coral plant.

The substance of coral is hard as well in the sea, as when out. The red kind is red from the first, and it is a singular circumstance, that the ancients should have entertained these two erroneous opinions, which the most simple examination would have falsified.—The central part or axis of the coral is hard, of a firm solid texture, even, and lamellated; and hence capable of taking the finest polish. This is inclosed by a paler coloured bark of a granulated texture, interspersed with holes in the form of stars with eight rays. In the coral of the largest size sometimes is found a kind of joint or union between the different pieces of which it is composed, these having the appearance of tubes of some length, lying one above the other. In the analysis of coral we obtain a small quantity of gelatinous animal matter, a large proportion of carbonate of lime, and a little iron. The different colours of this beautiful marine production seem to depend on the different degrees of oxidation of the iron, and various proportions of it in union with the animal matter. The discovery of polypi gave the clearest idea of the origin and growth of coral. These animals, the last in the scale of animated nature, form for themselves small nests sufficiently solid to shelter and protect them. These soft and delicate animals, surrounded by an element in a constant state of agitation, and exposed to the attacks of their numerous ene-

mies, were instructed by nature to form for themselves a covering capable of resisting the percussion of the sea, and affording them a retreat in the moment of danger.

These coralligenous polypi are only a few lines in length; their bodies elongate and ramify into eight delicate threadlike branches around the mouth. These are the arms and legs of the animal, which it can extend and spread out at will to a considerable distance in search of its food. They are analogous to the horns of the snail. The curious manner of propagation of polypi, so different from that of other larger and more perfect animals, is well known; on examining minutely the gelatinous bodies of these polypi, a great number of grains, or little buds, are discernible, covering the surface; these elongate themselves, increase in thickness, diverge and spread in all directions, and become young polypi. Scarcely are these developed, before a new series of sprouts appears from their small bodies by the increase and growth of the small buds on their surface. By this rapid succession the family is propagated in every direction, forming as it were a genealogical tree of existing generations. It is well known how, from the soft nature of their bodies, these animals are enabled to unite and engraft with each other in the same manner as plants; and one branch of these animalculæ so engrafted lives and regenerates another. Even one single animal may detach itself from the family tree, and establish on another spot a new family with its various branches. While large animals have bones for the support of the softer parts, and shell fish are pro-

tected by their shells, the coralligenous polypi make use of a certain proportion of earth to incorporate with and give firmness to their form.

Immediately as a polypus has fixed itself on a hard body, it begins to lay the foundation of its future generation. If you only take some stones from the bottom of the sea round Sicily, you will find on them small branches of red coral, and round red spots, which are the first depositions of the coralligenous polypi. In the same way as the bones of the larger animals are formed by the gradual deposition of the earthy particles separated from their food by vessels adapted to this purpose, so is the covering of these polypi formed by the carbonate of lime mixing and encrustating with the gelatinous matter, which is so abundantly secreted by their delicate bodies, and gradually incases them except the mouth. If a branch of coral newly gathered is immersed in a vessel full of sea water, these animals are perceived issuing from the stellated holes, their mouths gradually appearing first, and then their silk-like arms extend, in this manner putting on the appearance of octopetalous flowers, by which the ingenious Count Marsigli was deceived.

The multiplication of polypi, of which I have treated, explains admirably the arboraceous form of coral, as also the increase of the branches detached from the trunk. I have before me a fine specimen of the antipathes, the black coral of the ancients, in which the extremity of a branch has united with the principal trunk, and the polypi are seen bedded in it.

From what we have seen, I think the term zoophyte inapplicable to coral; it is neither an animal plant, nor a plant animal: nor can it be called a zoolite; as it is certainly not a stony animal. It is with more propriety a polipais; which, on account of its form, and to distinguish it from the other analogous works of polypi, might be called polipais dendroide. In using this nomenclature, we must be careful not to adopt the false idea, that the polipais resembles a wasp's nest; the wasps may at will leave their nests, but the polipais is a part of the animal, from which it cannot be detached. Thus the polipais dendroide is an accumulation of ramified polypi, incorporated with the solid substance, in the same manner as the shell of some animals and the bones of others. The above erroneous opinion cannot be entertained by any one, who observes, that in coral the gelatinous membrane of the polypus is continued into the solid earthy part, the same as in bones. Herissant has already pointed out this mistake.

It is to be inferred from the analogy of coral with bone, that; as it does not arrive at once at a state of maturity, but by degrees, its hardness must also be progressive. However probable this idea may be, it has not been confirmed by experience. I have particularly remarked the small quantity of iron obtained in the analysis of the red coral; I have always found it combined with the gelatinous animal substance in the state of oxide. Not to extend this paper too much, I shall omit the results of various experiments I have made; but they have led me

to conclude, that the ferruginous substance is phosphate of iron, that is, the oxide of iron united with phosphoric acid, which it is well known gives the red colour to the blood of animals. The phosphate of iron therefore, which in animals has the property of giving the lively red colour to the blood, and even the vermilion hue to the skin, serves to colour the solid part of coral, and give it the brilliant sanguineous tinge.

The first variety, as I have remarked, is esteemed the most perfect; it is more solid than the other kinds, of a finer and more compact texture, and hence takes a higher polish. In the other kinds, in proportion as the bright colour fades, these qualities gradually decrease, so that the white sort, which is the softest and lightest, is very unfit to be wrought, and takes but a trifling polish. The deficiency in the quantity of phosphate of iron diminishes the colour, and at the same time decreases the density of its texture; or perhaps the light texture by its porosity permits the water to wash away the colouring matter, and consequently that which would tend to bring it to perfect maturity.

To this may be attributed the peculiarities of some corals, in which the trunk is red, and the branches white; or the branches red within, and externally white; or the branches half white and half red, which is often seen in coralligenous productions; but the red part always proves of firmer texture than the others.

While naturalists have been employed in investigating the origin of coral, and the nature of its growth, each applying it to dif-

ferent purposes; the fair sex, occupied by the natural desire of pleasing, have been much indebted to the brilliant colour and fine lustre of this marine production. Coral formed into beads is worn as an ornament of the neck and arms; and there is no doubt, that the lively colour of coral gives additional grace to a fine face and beautiful complexion, which cannot be obtained by the use of the precious stones, so that these can only be considered as ornaments of luxury and show. The ladies, who are always led away by fashion, because they consider it as depending on the existing taste of the other sex, laid aside this beautiful ornament, to load themselves with jewels brought from distant countries. Thus coral gave place to other ornaments, the rage of pleasing being only gratified by variety. Works of amber have latterly obtained a very high estimation from the softness of its substance and its transparency.

This substance, which for a time was in high repute, and which the discovery of the precious stones had almost thrown into oblivion has of late, by the accustomed versatility of capricious fashion, recovered its former value, and has rivalled in price even the ornaments composed of jewels.

When the value of female ornaments shall depend no longer on the price or scarcity, but on the effect they produce on the complexion, all will yield to the natural beauty of coral. Most certainly Galatea, emerging from the ocean, would select from the numerous offerings of the nymphs the lucid branches of the coral to adorn herself with, which would alone as-

similate with the roundness of her lips, and with the vermilion of her cheeks.

The working of coral consists in removing the outer bark, and exposing the interior solid and highly coloured part, which takes a fine polish. The coarse part of the bark being removed by the file, it is rubbed with tripoli powder, and lastly, with a metallic earth, which gives the polish. Some bring it to the finest polish imaginable by the use of the oxide of tin.

The ancients ornamented their swords, bucklers, and helmets with coral; this custom is still in vogue in some part of Asia, where coral is as much esteemed as in the time of Pliny. The soothsayers and priests of that age attributed many mystic properties to it; hence they were in the habit of wearing coral, as well from religious motives, as from regard to its beauty. Paracelsus recommends it to be worn round the necks of infants, as an admirable preservative against fits, sorcery, charms, and even against poison. Many other follies of that man are still prevalent, and of great credit with the common people; and it is very usual in the inland parts of Sicily, to see children wearing amulets of coral round the neck for the above purpose. In the cities it is worn in the shape of a horn, as a protection against the influence of evil eyes. It was even believed, that coral would drive away devils and evil

spirits; hence perhaps arose the custom of making crowns of it. Nor have the medicinal properties of coral been less exaggerated, as may be sufficiently seen in the writings of Pliny and Dioscorides. It certainly may be considered as an absorbent; it is used in dentifrice powder, in the Alkermes for indigestion, and in the Troches of Carabe.

The Trapanese appear to have been the first who worked the coral, being induced thereto by the great quantity of it found in their seas. It is asserted, that Antonio Ciminello, a Trapanese, was the first who discovered the art of engraving coral. In the time of King Alphonso the coral fishery was so assiduously, and so advantageously pursued by the Trapanese, that the ministers of that king proposed to subject the fishery to a tax. In the last century, when it was again proposed, instead of a tax, which probably would have ruined this branch of industry, King Ferdinand instituted some very useful regulations in favour of it.

Beside forming necklaces and bracelets, the Trapanese have the art of engraving it in the same manner as they do amber and shells, and most certainly many of these works display great spirit, boldness, and grace in the execution, talents natural to the genius of the Sicilian nation.

USEFUL

PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE
ONION. *By Thomas Andrew
Knight, Esq. F.R.S. &c.*

THE first object of the Horticultural Society being to point out improvements in the culture of those plants, which are extensively useful to the public, I send a few remarks on the management of one of these; the onion; which both constitutes one of the humble luxuries of the poor, and finds its way in various forms to the tables of the affluent and luxurious.

Every bulbous rooted plant, and indeed every plant which produces leaves, and lives longer than one year, generates, in one season, the sap, or vegetable blood, which composes the leaves and roots of the succeeding spring; and when the sap has accumulated during one or more seasons, it is ultimately expended in the production of blossoms and seeds. This reserved sap is deposited in, and composes in a great measure, the bulb; and moreover the quantity accumulated, as well as the period required for its accumulation, varies greatly in the same species of plant, under more or less favour-

able circumstances. Thus the onion in the south of Europe acquires a much larger size during the long and warm summers of Spain and Portugal, in a single season, than in the colder climate of England; but under the following mode of culture, which I have long practised, two summers in England produce nearly the effect of one in Spain or Portugal, and the onion assumes nearly the form and size of those thence imported.

Seeds of the Spanish or Portugal onion are sown at the usual period in the spring, very thickly, and in poor soil; generally under the shade of a fruit tree: and in such situations the bulbs in the autumn are rarely found much to exceed the size of a large pea. These are then taken from the ground, and preserved till the succeeding spring, when they are planted at equal distances from each other, and they afford plants, which differ from those raised immediately from seed only in possessing much greater strength and vigour, owing to the quantity of previously generated sap being much greater in the bulb than in the seed. The bulbs, thus raised, often exceed considerably
five

five inches in diameter, and being more mature, they are with more certainty preserved, in a state of perfect soundness, through the winter, than those raised from seed in a single season. The same effects are, in some measure, produced by sowing the seeds in August, as is often done; but the crops often perish during the winter, and the ground becomes compressed and soddened (to use an antiquated term) by the winter rains; and I have in consequence always found, that any given weight of this plant may be obtained, with less expense to the grower, by the mode of culture I recommend, than by any other which I have seen practised.

AN ESSAY ON THE CULTIVATION
OF THE RED BEET. *By Mr.
Goering, a Saxon Agriculturist.*

Next to the potato, the utility of which is well known, the red beet is one of the most beneficial plants, the cultivation of which is particularly to be recommended. Every one knows, that sugar has been obtained from it not inferior to that of India; and the manufacture of which would probably have been established in Germany, had not the consumption of wood necessary for it checked its most zealous partizans; for the resources of Germany in this respect are daily diminishing.

Beside this essential point, which cannot be attained from local difficulties, and which may not exist in many other countries, the principal properties of the beet are those of being nourishing, emollient, cooling, laxative, &c.

Supposing it to be cultivated

only for feeding stock, particularly cows, in winter and in summer, it deserves in every respect to be preferred to most plants both for the root and leaf. Though the white beet is of pretty extensive use, and much cultivated, it cannot in any respect be compared with the red. It is neither so firm nor so sweet; and we find, by experience, that the milk of cows fed some time with it loses its sweetness, and becomes bitter. Besides, it can scarcely be kept through the winter, as it soon grows rotten.

The red beet, on the contrary, is firm, sweet, and but in a moderate degree watery. It is at least as nutritious as the turnip cabbage, and imparts to the milk a pleasing sweetness, which continues as long as the cow is fed on it. It keeps very well through the winter, either in cellars or in pits, provided it be not put in wet: and is as fresh when taken out in the spring as it was when laid up. They who cultivate both sorts, therefore, should use the white in the fall, and keep the red for the spring.

The leaves of the red beet, which may be gathered in the middle of July, the time of sowing the white beet only, is excellent fodder, particularly for horned cattle and pigs. It is true, however, that the leaves cannot be thus gathered but at the expense of the roots.

It is also indisputable, that the red beet is one of the roots that succeed almost always. It has few enemies, and a good crop may always be depended on, provided the ground has been well tilled and prepared, and the seed properly sown.

There is no season amiss for
sowing

sowing the red beet. It may be sown as early as you please in spring, or even in autumn; for the first leaves which in most other plants are very tender, are able to stand the cold winds of spring. No insect can hurt them; and while the turnip, the turnip cabbage, the cabbage, &c. are destroyed by the leaflice, the red beet grows astonishingly; and when in autumn the leaves of those plants are devoured by caterpillars, none are seen on the red beet.

The only enemies it has, that I know of, are fowls; for these are so fond of its leaves, as entirely to lay waste the fields of it, to which they can have access. Their appetite for this plant, when they once have discovered it in a field or garden, is such, that it is almost impossible to keep them out. They should not be sown therefore in gardens or fields too near houses, as in this case the crop may be looked upon as lost.

The following is the method I have adopted of cultivating it.

I first select, if possible, a good black mould, rather rich. If it be mixed with a little sand, and provided it has not too much clay, it is good for the beet, which always requires a little moisture. It may be cultivated indeed on light ground, but not with equal success.

In autumn I lay on manure, in the proportion of six two-horse cart loads of dung or horned cattle to a hundred and forty square perches. This dung, I afterwards bury at least six inches deep with the plough: and then I give the ground another ploughing in narrow furrows.

As soon in the spring as the

land can be worked, I sow the seed where the plants are to remain; for experience has taught me, that transplanting them is injurious. They should not be sown too thick: there should be at least six inches distance between the plants; and it is often necessary to pull up some in the thickest places, for three or four plants frequently spring from a single seed.

It is usual to cover the seed by raking or harrowing; but as from their lightness they frequently lie on the surface and rot, it is better to use the hoe, or the plough, taking care not to bury them too deep. In this way we may be certain of their germinating quickly, if the soil be good.

As soon as the plants have their sixth leaf, they should be weeded, and thinned out where too close. A few weeks after they should be hoed, but so as rather to draw the earth from them than to heap it round them.

When the leaves begin to bend down to the ground, the largest, at the bottom of the plant, may be gathered for the cattle: but they must not be stripped too much, as this would injure the root. Nor should the leaves be plucked off before they separate as it were of themselves, inclining toward the ground.

If weeds appear again, or the ground get hard and dry, they should be hoed a second time. Lastly, in the month of October the roots should be taken up, and laid in the places intended for keeping them, first cutting off the stalk close to the root, that they may not vegetate during the winter.

SOME REMARKS ON PRUNING AND TRAINING STANDARD APPLE AND PEAR TREES.

By Mr. John Maher, F. H. S.

We often see apple and pear trees, both in gardens and orchards, not only crowded too closely together, but so loaded with their own branches, that very little fruit is produced; and that which is produced is rendered greatly inferior in size and flavour to what it would be under different management.

Directions for pruning these, as well as all other fruit-trees, have already been published by various experienced gardeners, nor is it my present intention to offer any instructions on this head; but necessity, which has been so justly called the mother of invention, having impelled me to try a method that I have not seen practised by any other person, and which has proved uncommonly successful, a short detail of it may perhaps be deemed not unworthy the attention of the Horticultural Society.

When first I came to Millfield, I found a number of apple and pear trees, not only planted too closely, but left entirely to their natural manner of growing, and exceedingly shaded by a row of high trees in the hedge, which separates them from the pleasure ground.

Other business to be done, of more importance, prevented me from pruning the whole immediately; but a number were selected the first season, and many of their largest branches taken entirely out from the bottom, cutting the wounds very clean. The remain-

ing branches were also properly thinned, so as to leave room for the air and light to play upon the smallest branches.

The following summer, the shoots pushed from those pruned trees, as might have been expected, were uncommonly vigorous, such as the French call *gourmands*, often from three to five feet long, or more. About the end of June, or a little sooner and later, according to the growth of the branches, I applied oval balls of grafting clay towards their extremity, sufficiently heavy to incline them downwards in a pendulous direction. The sap being thus diverted from its natural mode of ascending and descending, every bud almost became a blossom bud, and in several trees this disposition to produce blossom buds was carried down to the very lowest spurs on the stem and thicker branches.

I need not add, that this practice has since been closely followed up; for many advantages, exclusive of a more certain crop of fruit attend it. 1st, Other small vegetables may be successfully cultivated under the light shade of trees kept so open, an object of importance in the villages near London, where ground is so difficult to be got: 2dly, No expense of espalier, or of stakes, or of training and tying down the branches is incurred: 3dly, The crop of fruit is not only improved in size and flavour by having so much sun and air, but it is more easily gathered, and suffers much less from the autumnal winds; for branches in this direction are more pliable, and bend more easily to the storm; and as a proof how much may be done by art if necessary, the branches of
a Lom-

a Lombardy poplar accidentally left in my master's orchard, after being loaded with clay balls, became as pendulous as those of the weeping willow.

I have only to add, that most of the specimens of apples and pears produced at our meeting in November and December last by me, and honoured with the encomiums of some of the best judges present, grew upon trees kept low and open in this method.

**HERRINGS CURED IN THE DUTCH
MODE ON BOARD BRITISH VES-
SELS. By Francis Fortune, Esq.**

*From Transactions of the Society
of Arts.*

In the deep sea (which is the principal fishery for herrings) the nets are cast from the busses by sunset, and they drive by them alone expecting the shoals, the approach of which is generally indicated by small quantities of fish; and their arrival by immense flights of sea fowl. The best fishing is with the wind off shore, for, when it blows in a contrary direction, the shoals are broken and dispersed, and the fishery is seldom successful while it continues in that point.

Immediately after the nets are hauled in (which is often performed with considerable difficulty, by means of a windlass when they are full) the crew begin to gyp the fish, that is, to cut out the gill, which is followed by the float or swim, and divide the large jugular or spiral vein with a knife at the same time, endeavouring to waste as little of the blood as possible;—at this work the men are so ex-

pert, that some will gyp fifty in a minute.

Immediately after they are gyped, they are put into barrels, commencing with a layer of salt at the bottom, then a tier of fish, each side by side, back downwards, the tail of one touching the head of the other, next a layer of salt, and so alternately until the barrel is filled:—they are thus left, and the blood which issues from the fish, by dissolving the salt, forms a pickle infinitely superior to any other that can be made. The herrings thus drained of their blood occupy less space, and the whole consequently sinks about one-third down the barrel, but this sinking is at an end in about three or four days.

When these operations are being performed, the sea is often running mountains high; and it is not therefore to be supposed, that the barrels are so well coopered as not sometimes to allow the pickle to leak out; and in order to preserve the fish from being spoiled, which would otherwise happen in such cases, some of the gills and entrails are always put by in barrels with salt, in the same manner as the herrings, and yield a pickle of the same quality; with this pickle those barrels which have leaked are replenished, and the fish sustains no injury. Every operation is performed in the shade, into which the fish are immediately conveyed on their being hauled on board. Each day's fishing is kept separate with the greatest care. The salt used is mixed, and of three different sorts, viz. English, St. Ubes, and Alicant, and each barrel marked with the day of the month on it on which it was filled.

The advantages of gypping the herrings are, that the blood, which issues in consequence of the operation from the fish, yields a natural pickle, and improves the flavour; whereas, if left in the fish, it becomes coagulated at the backbone, and forms the first cause of decay. The mixture of blood and salt operated upon by the extreme heat of the weather during the summer fisheries produces a fermentation which nearly parboils the herrings, and removes the coarse and raw flavour so often complained of. The gypping is likewise often performed on shore, observing the same precautions; the only difference is, that they are seldom in that case of so good a colour. Gypped herrings are never of so fine a quality as when kept in their own original pickle; their value consists in their softness and flavour; it is this mode of curing herrings that used to be the pride of the Dutch, and this is the kind which supplied their home consumption, and were so much

esteemed by all classes of people in Holland.

In order, as far as it is possible, to give a proof of the correctness of the above assertion, I shall state a fact for the information of the Society. During the last year I employed a number of Dutch fishermen, prisoners, and others, with Englishmen, in gypping and curing herrings; and at one time my agent at Yarmouth was offered 4*l.* per barrel, for all the herrings he had cured there, by a Dutch captain, in order to their being taken to Holland, while ungypped herrings were worth only 36*s.* per barrel. The herrings now under the consideration of your Society are part of the quantity for which this offer was made.

Should the Society, after due consideration, think proper to adjudge me their gold medal, it will afford me much satisfaction, and convince me, that my exertions have, in some degree, been beneficial to the community.

MISCELLANIES.

Some Particulars respecting the arithmetical Powers of Zerah Colburn, a Child under Eight Years of Age.

London, Aug. 20, 1812.

THE attention of the philosophical world has been lately attracted by the most singular phenomenon in the history of the human mind that perhaps ever existed. It is the case of a child, under eight years of age, who, without any previous knowledge of the common rules of arithmetic, or even of the use and power of the Arabic numerals, and without having given any particular attention to the subject, possesses (as if by intuition) the singular faculty of solving a great variety of arithmetical questions by the mere operation of the mind, and without the usual assistance of any visible symbol or contrivance.

The name of the child is Zerah Colburn, who was born at Cabot (a town lying at the head of Onion river, in Vermont, in the United States of America), on the 1st of September, 1804. About two years ago (August, 1810), although at that time not six years of age, he first began to show those wonderful powers of calculation which have since so much attract-

ed the attention and excited the astonishment of every person who has witnessed his extraordinary abilities. The discovery was made by accident. His father, who had not given him any other instruction than such as was to be obtained at a small school established in that unfrequented and remote part of the country, and which did not include either writing or cyphering), was much surprised one day to hear him repeating the products of several numbers. Struck with amazement at the circumstance, he proposed a variety of arithmetical questions to him, all of which the child solved with remarkable facility and correctness. The news of this infant prodigy soon circulated through the neighbourhood; and many persons came from distant parts to witness so singular a circumstance. The father, encouraged by the unanimous opinion of all who came to see him, was induced to undertake, with this child, the tour of the United States. They were every where received with the most flattering expressions; and in the several towns which they visited, various plans were suggested to educate and bring up the child, free from all expense to his family. Yielding, however, to the pressing solicitations

citations of his friends, and urged by the most respectable and powerful recommendations, as well as by a view to his son's more complete education, the father has brought the child to this country, where they arrived on the 12th of May last: and the inhabitants of this metropolis have for these last three months had an opportunity of seeing and examining this wonderful phænomenon, and of verifying the reports that have been circulated respecting him.

Many persons of the first eminence for their knowledge in mathematics, and well known for their philosophical inquiries, have made a point of seeing and conversing with him; and they have all been struck with astonishment at his extraordinary powers. It is correctly true, as stated of him, that—"He will not only determine, with the greatest facility and dispatch, the exact number of minutes or seconds in any given period of time; but will also solve any other question of a similar kind. He will tell the exact product arising from the multiplication of any number, consisting of two, three, or four figures, by any other number consisting of the like number of figures. Or, any number, consisting of six or seven places of figures, being proposed, he will determine, with equal expedition and ease, all the factors of which it is composed. This singular faculty consequently extends not only to the raising of powers, but also to the extraction of the square and cube roots of the number proposed; and likewise to the means of determining whether it be a prime number (or a number incapable of division by any other

number); for which case there does not exist, at present, any general rule amongst mathematicians." All these, and a variety of other questions connected therewith, are answered by this child with such promptness and accuracy (and in the midst of his juvenile pursuits) as to astonish every person who has visited him.

At a meeting of his friends, which was held for the purpose of concerting the best methods of promoting the views of the father, this child undertook, and completely succeeded in, raising the number 8 progressively up to the sixteenth power!!! and in naming the last result, viz. 281,474,976,710,656, he was right in every figure. He was then tried as to other numbers, consisting of one figure; all of which he raised (by actual multiplication and not by memory) as high as the tenth power, with so much facility and dispatch that the person appointed to take down the results, was obliged to enjoin him not to be so rapid! With respect to numbers consisting of two figures, he would raise some of them to the sixth, seventh, and eighth power; but not always with equal facility: for the larger the products became, the more difficult he found it to proceed. He was asked the square root of 106929, and before the number could be written down, he immediately answered 327. He was then required to name the cube root of 268,336,125, and with equal facility and promptness he replied, 645. Various other questions of a similar nature, respecting the roots and powers of very high numbers, were proposed by several of the gentlemen present, to all of which he answered

answered in a similar manner. One of the party requested him to name the factors which produced the number 247483, which he immediately did by mentioning the two numbers 941 and 263; which indeed are the only two numbers that will produce it. Another of them proposed 171395, and he named the following factors as the only ones that would produce it, viz. $5+34279$, $7+24485$, 59×2905 , 83×2065 , 35×4897 , 295×581 , and 413×415 . He was then asked to give the factors of 36083; but he immediately replied that it had none; which, in fact was the case, as 36083 is a prime number. Other numbers were indiscriminately proposed to him, and he always succeeded in giving the correct factors, except in the case of prime numbers, which he discovered almost as soon as proposed. One of the gentlemen asked him how many minutes there were in forty eight years; and before the question could be written down, he replied, 25,228,800; and instantly added, that the number of seconds in the same period was 1,513,728,000. Various questions of the like kind were put to him; and to all of them he answered with nearly equal facility and promptitude, so as to astonish every one present, and to excite a desire that so extraordinary a faculty should (if possible) be rendered more extensive and useful.

It was the wish of the gentlemen present to obtain a knowledge of the method by which the child was enabled to answer, with so much facility and correctness, the questions thus put to him: but to all their inquiries upon this sub-

ject (and he was closely examined upon this point) he was unable to give them any information. He positively declared (and every observation that was made seemed to justify the assertion) that he did not know how the answers came into his mind. In the act of multiplying two numbers together, and in the raising of powers, it was evident (not only from the motion of his lips, but also from some singular facts which will be hereafter mentioned), that some operation was going forward in his mind; yet that operation could not (from the readiness with which the answers were furnished) be at all allied to the usual mode of proceeding with such subjects; and, moreover, he is entirely ignorant of the common rules of arithmetic, and cannot perform, upon paper, a simple sum in multiplication or division. But in the extraction of roots, and in mentioning the factors of high numbers, it does not appear that any operation can take place, since he will give the answer immediately, or in a very few seconds, where it would require, according to the ordinary method of solution, a very difficult and laborious calculation; and moreover, the knowledge of a prime number cannot be obtained by any known rule.

It has been already observed, that it was evident, from some singular facts, that the child operated by certain rules known only to himself. This discovery was made in one or two instances, when he had been closely pressed upon that point. In one case he was asked to tell the square of 4395; he at first hesitated, fearful that he should not be able to answer it correctly:

correctly; but when he applied himself to it, he said it was 19,316,025. On being questioned as to the cause of his hesitation, he replied that he did not like to multiply four figures by four figures; but, said he, "I found out another way; I multiplied 293 by 293, and then multiplied this product twice by the number 15, which produced the same result." On another occasion, his highness the Duke of Gloucester asked him the product of 21,734 multiplied by 543; he immediately replied, 11,801,562: but, upon some remark being made on the subject, the child said that he had, in his own mind, multiplied 65,202 by 181. Now, although, in the first instance it must be evident to every mathematician that 4395 is equal to 293×15 , and consequently that $(4395)^2 = (293)^2 \times (15)^2$; and, further, that in the second case, 543 is equal to 181×3 , and consequently that $21734 \times (181 \times 3) = (21734 \times 3) \times 181$; yet, it is not the less remarkable, that this combination should be immediately perceived by the child, and we cannot the less admire his ingenuity in thus seizing instantly the easiest method of solving the question proposed to him.

It must be evident, from what has here been stated, that the singular faculty which this child possesses is not altogether dependant upon his memory. In the multiplication of numbers, and in the raising of powers, he is doubtless considerably assisted by that remarkable quality of the mind: and in this respect he might be considered as bearing some resemblance (if the difference of age

did not prevent the justness of the comparison) to the celebrated Jedediah Buxton, and other persons of similar note. But, in the extraction of the roots of numbers, and in determining their factors (if any), it is clear, to all those who have witnessed the astonishing quickness and accuracy of this child, that the memory has little or nothing to do with the process. And in this particular point consists the remarkable difference between the present and all former instances of an apparently similar kind.

It has been recorded as an astonishing effort of memory, that the celebrated Euler (who, in the science of analysis, might vie even with Newton himself), could remember the first six powers of every number under 100. This, probably, must be taken with some restrictions; but, if true to the fullest extent, it is not more astonishing than the efforts of this child; with this additional circumstance in favour of the latter, that he is capable of verifying in a very few seconds, every figure which he may have occasion for. It has been further remarked by the biographer of that eminent mathematician, that, "he perceived, almost at a simple glance, the factors of which his formulæ were composed; the particular system of factors belonging to the question under consideration; the various artifices by which that system may be simplified and reduced; and the relation of the several factors to the conditions of the hypothesis. His expertness in this particular probably resulted, in a great measure, from the ease with which he performed mathematical investigations by head.

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He had always accustomed himself to that exercise; and, having practised it with assiduity (even before the loss of sight, which afterwards rendered it a matter of necessity), he is an instance to what an astonishing degree it may be acquired, and how much it improves the intellectual powers. No other discipline is so effectual in strengthening the faculty of attention: it gives a facility of apprehension, an accuracy and steadiness to the conceptions; and (what is a still more valuable acquisition) it habituates the mind to arrangement in its reasonings and reflections."

It is not intended to draw a comparison between the humble, though astonishing, efforts of this infant prodigy and the gigantic powers of that illustrious character to whom a reference has just been made: yet we may be permitted to hope and expect that those wonderful talents, which are so conspicuous at this early age, may, by a suitable education, be considerably improved and extended; and that some new light will eventually be thrown upon those subjects, for the elucidation of which his mind appears to be peculiarly formed by nature, since he enters into the world with all those powers and faculties which are not even attainable by the most eminent at a more advanced period of life. Every mathematician must be aware of the important advantages which have sometimes been derived from the most simple and trifling circumstances; the full effect of which has not always been evident at first sight. To mention one singular instance of this kind. The very simple improvement of expressing the powers and roots of

quantities by means of indices, introduced a new and general arithmetic of exponents; and this algorithm of powers led the way to the invention of logarithms, by means of which, all arithmetical computations are so much facilitated and abridged. Perhaps this child possesses a knowledge of some more important properties connected with this subject; and although he is incapable at present of giving any satisfactory account of the state of his mind, or of communicating to others the knowledge which it is so evident he does possess, yet there is every reason to believe that, when his mind is more cultivated, and his ideas more expanded, he will be able not only to divulge the mode by which he at present operates, but also point out some new sources of information on this interesting subject.

The case is certainly one of great novelty and importance: and every literary character, and every friend to science, must be anxious to see the experiment fairly tried, as to the effect which a suitable education may produce on a mind constituted as his appears to be. With this view a number of gentlemen have taken the child under their patronage, and have formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of superintending his education. Application has been made to a gentleman of science, well known for his mathematical abilities, who has consented to take the child under his immediate tuition: the committee, therefore, propose to withdraw him, for the present, from public exhibition, in order that he may fully devote himself to his studies. But whether

ther they shall be able wholly to accomplish the object they have in view, will depend upon the assistance which they may receive from the public.

ACCOUNT OF SELDEN'S CELEBRATED WORK, *MARE CLAUSUM*.
From Dr. Aikin's Lives of Selden and Usher.

In 1634, the Dutch had almost monopolized the northern fisheries; and discussions having been entered into concerning their right of frequenting, and taking herrings on, the British shores, it was recollected that Selden many years before had written a treatise to assert the English dominion of the sea. Of the composition of this work, which under the title of *Mare Clausum*, was first published in 1636, the history merits a detail.

The illustrious Grotius, as early as 1609, had published a work entitled "*Mare Liberum*," in order to establish the right of the Dutch to navigate to the East Indies, in opposition to the exclusive claim of the Portuguese. Some years afterwards, Selden, among his various studies, engaged in a refutation of the principles of this performance; for although the "*Mare Clausum*" is not avowedly an answer to the "*Mare Liberum*," the contrasted title evidently shews that the author had that work in view. At the time when Selden's History of Tythes had brought him into disgrace with King James, the Admiral of England having heard of his writing on the subject of the dominion of the sea, probably with the intention of do-

ing him service, mentioned the circumstance to the King, who ordered him to prepare the work for publication. Selden obeyed, and in the summer of 1618 presented a fair copy to his Majesty, who, after perusing it, gave it to the Admiral in order to be examined by Sir Henry Marten, president of the court of admiralty. He read and approved it, and the manuscript was returned to the Admiral, who took Selden with his book to the King's closet for the royal *imprimatur*. James was just about to sign it, when he observed, "I recollect something is said here concerning the northern sea, which may perhaps displease my brother of Denmark, and I would not now have him offended, because I owe him a large sum of money, and am going to borrow a greater." It was therefore returned to the author for alteration. When this was effected, the work was for some time under the inspection of the Earl of Pembroke; but at length the King and his ministers seem to have lost all interest in it, and the papers were suffered to lie above fifteen years forgotten in Selden's cabinet. It was hinted to him as one cause of this neglect, that some officious persons had insinuated to the Admiral, that certain things in the treatise appeared to restrict the jurisdiction of the Admiralty Court; and also, that the King himself fancied that the mention made in it of certain treaties with foreign powers might prove prejudicial to his views. In the subsequent reign other subjects fully occupied Selden's attention, as well as that of the court; and it was not till the spring of 1635 that, the King's maritime rights being

being called into question in discussions with the Dutch, some men of rank about the royal person who had formerly heard of the work, persuaded his Majesty to command its publication. The manuscript was therefore corrected and revised by the author, and having been inspected by the King and some of the council, was sent to the press in that year.

The preceding account is given at large by Selden in his *Vindiciæ Maris Clausi*, by way of refutation of what he considered as a gross calumny advanced by Theodore Graswinckel, in his "*Maris Liberi Vindiciæ adversus Petrum Baptistum Burgum, Ligustici maritimi Domini Assertorem.*" That writer, after quoting from Burgos the information that "Selden has lately published an entire work on the Dominion of the British Sea," added, "Non mirum: virorum enim ille inter seculi nostri primicerios numerandus, et meliore fortuna dignus, fati sui infelicitate, carceris se non digni colonus erat. Hinc ut exiret, seque libertati amissæ redonandum sperare daretur, animum ad scribendum apulit, et

Id sibi negotii credidit solum dari
Domino ut placerent quas fecisset fabulas.

Neque talia agitantem successus destituit." (No wonder: for that person, who may be numbered among the first characters of our age, and was worthy a better fortune, through the rigour of his fate became the inhabitant of an unmerited prison. That he might be released from this confinement, and hope to recover his lost liberty, he applied himself to writing,

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and "Thought it his sole business to invent fables which might be pleasing to his master"—nor did his efforts fail of success.)

By this narrative, therefore, and that of his different imprisonments, he makes it clear that the composition of this work was anterior to his first confinement, and its publication posterior to his final enlargement, with which it had no concern. Whether or not in its revision he made additions to favour the purposes of the court at that time, could only be known from a comparison of the two manuscripts.

The work bears the following title: *Mare Clausum, seu de Dominio Maris, Libri duo. Primo, Mare, e Jure Naturæ seu Gentium, omnium hominum non esse commune, sed dominii privati seu proprietatis capax, pariter ac Tellurem, demonstratur. Secundo, serenissimum Magnæ Britannicæ regem Maris circumflui ut individuae atque perpetuæ Imperii Britannici appendicis, dominum esse, asseritur.* (The Closed Sea; or, on the Dominion of the Sea, two Books. In the first, it is demonstrated that the Sea, from the Law of Nature or of Nations, is not common to all men, but is the subject of property equally with the land. In the second, the King of Great Britain is asserted to be Lord of the circumfluent Sea, as an inseparable and perpetual appendage of the British empire.) It is dedicated to King Charles; and the preface is dated from the Inner Temple, Nov. 4, 1635.

In the first part, Selden lays his foundation deep in disquisitions on the nature of right and dominion;

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and then proceeds to give examples of maritime dominion asserted and exercised by different nations in ancient and modern history. In several of these, however, he will probably appear to have confounded naval power with maritime dominion, especially in the instances of the Greek states which are said *θαλασσοκρατειν*, which word, as he acknowledges, often means no more than to possess a superiority by sea. And in point of fact, the dominion of the sea historically considered, will perhaps be found to import no more than the power alternately possessed by different states, of ruling in the portions of sea adjacent to their own coasts, and dictating to their neighbours such conditions of navigating them as they thought expedient. In this view, there are abundant instances of the assertion of such a dominion, which has been acquiesced in only so long as it was supported by a powerful navy.

The second part, in which British maritime dominion is attempted to be established, begins with a quadripartite division of the British seas according to the four cardinal points; and proceeds to show the right of sovereignty exercised in all these at different periods. A dominion over these parts of the surrounding ocean is traced from hand to hand in the Roman, Saxon, and Norman times, as accompanying the several changes in territorial power. The office and jurisdiction of Admiral of England are deduced from ancient diplomas; and arguments are brought to prove, that the admirals of the opposite coast of France did not pre-

tend to the same authority in the Channel with those of England. The permission of transit and of fishery granted by the English kings at different periods to strangers, is adduced as a cogent proof of the British sovereignty in these seas; which is confirmed by the rules and limits assigned in them to foreigners at war with each other, but mutually in amity with England. The assumption or incidental mention of this maritime dominion of our kings in their charters and public records, and its recognition in our law books, are adverted to as additional testimonies of the existence of such a claim; and the same is regarded as acquiesced in by foreign nations in the ancient and established custom of striking sail to English ships of war in the surrounding waters. After the production of further proofs of a similar kind, the book concludes with a distinct consideration of the dominion of the King of Great Britain in the Irish and Scottish seas; and the author sums up the whole in the following passage. After quoting some very apposite lines of Grotius's complimentary address to King James on his accession to the crown of England (in which the flattery of the poet seems to have got the better of the prudence of the politician), ending with

*Finis hic est, qui fine caret. Quæ meta
Britannis
Littora sunt aliis; regni que accessio tanti
est
Quod ventis velisque patet :*

he adds, "And true it is, according to the mass of testimony above adduced, that the very shores and harbours

harbours of the neighbouring transmarine princes are the southern and eastern bounds of the British maritime empire; but that in the vast and open northern and western ocean they are to be fixed beyond those wide-spreading seas which are occupied by England, Scotland, and Ireland."

Such are the general contents of a book which afforded an additional proof of the learning and deep research of the author, as well as of his attachment to the honour of his country; and was considered, on this side of the water, as fully establishing the British claim to maritime dominion. So important was it deemed in this view, that it received a public sanction from the King and council, who adopted it as a most valuable record and declaration of the national rights. The following entry was made in the minutes of the privy-council, dated March 26, 1636:

"His Majesty this day in council taking into consideration a book lately published by John Selden, Esq. intituled *Mare Clausum seu de Dominio Maris*, written by the King's command, which he hath done with great industry, learning, and judgment, and hath asserted the right of the crown of England to the dominion of the British seas; the King requires one of the said books to be kept in the council chest, another in the court of Exchequer, and a third in the court of Admiralty, as faithful and strong evidence to the dominion of the British seas."

It was not, however, to be expected that arguments in support of the exclusive claims of one nation should be readily acquiesced in by those against whom they were

asserted; and accordingly it has been held in Holland and other countries on the continent, that Selden by no means refuted the principles of the "*Mare Liberum*," and that he was fully answered by posterior writers. In such a controversy, the philosopher will perhaps find that precedents have been made to serve instead of principles, and that acts of power have been represented as assertions of right; the jurist will be unwilling to admit into the code of national law any article that militates against the fundamental principle of equality and reciprocity between nations; while the politician will be inclined to smile at the importance attached to argumentative justifications of claims, which can never be made good in practice but by such a preponderance of force as would give them effect without any argument. It is certain, that the more able Great Britain has become to assert her maritime empire by force of arms, the less solicitous she has been to avail herself of supposed rights derived from remote antiquity, which, if disputed, could not be established without compulsory means.

A passage relative to this work, derogatory to Selden's character as a patriot, in Bishop Nicolson's "*Historical Library*," has been properly noticed and refuted by Dr. Wilkins. That writer says, "'Tis very plain that when the author penn'd this book, he was not such an inveterate enemy to the prerogative doctrine of ship-money as afterwards: for he professedly asserts that, in defence of their sovereignty at sea, our kings constantly practised the levying great sums on their subjects, without the concur-

rence of their parliaments." It is in the fifteenth chapter of his second book that Selden treats on this matter, in which he adduces, as a further evidence of the dominion of the sea exercised by England, the tributes and taxes accustomed to be levied for the custody of it from the time of the Norman conquest. He begins with the Saxon tax of Danegelt, which he finds to have been occasionally levied by the Norman kings; once, particularly, by William Rufus, "with consent of his barons, but not by sanction of a law." And that this was regarded as a grievance, appears from King Stephen's promise, among other popular measures, entirely to abolish Danegelt. In fact, this tax was not paid later than the reign of Henry II. and *parliamentary grants* for the purpose of guarding the seas, after its cessation, are cited by Selden under Edward I. Richard II. and Henry VI. He goes on to say, "Why do I quote these instances, when in the printed parliamentary records it frequently occurs, by way of preamble to a statute, 'that the kings of England from time immemorial have received *by authority of parliament* great sums of money under the title of a subsidy, or a tax upon goods imported or exported, for the defence of the realm, and the keeping and safeguard of the seas?" It is most extraordinary that Nicolson, with this passage full in his view, could represent Selden as countenancing by his authority the unconstitutional imposition of ship-money without the intervention of parliament.

The *Mare Clausum* was translated into English in 1652, at the time of the breach between the English commonwealth and the

states of Holland, by Marchmont Needham, who took the liberty of suppressing the dedication to Charles, and substituting one to the republic. He also added an Appendix, containing some documents contributed by president Bradshaw. Another and an improved translation was made after the Restoration by J. H. (probably James Howell), and published in 1663; whence may be judged how flattering its doctrine was to the feelings of Englishmen.

DESCRIPTION OF TEHERAN.

(*From Morier's Tour in Persia.*)

Teheran, the present capital of Persia, is situated, as I ascertained by a meridional observation, in lat. $35^{\circ} 40'$. It is in circumference between four and a half and five miles, if we might judge from the length of our ride round the walls, which indeed occupied an hour and a half; but from this we must deduct something for the deviations necessary from the intervention of the gardens, and the slaughter-houses. There are six gates, inlaid with coloured bricks and with figures of tigers and other beasts in rude mosaic: their entrance is lofty and domed; and they are certainly better than those that we had then seen in any of the fortified places of Persia. To the N. W. are separate towers. We saw two pieces of artillery, one apparently a mortar, the other a long gun. The ditch in some parts had fallen in, and was there supported by brick-work.

The town itself is about the size
of

of Shiraz; but it has not so many public edifices; and, as it is built of bricks baked in the sun, the whole has a mud-like appearance. Of the mosques, the principal is the Mesjid Shah, a structure not yet finished. There are six others, small and insignificant; and three or four medressés or colleges. There are said to be one hundred and fifty caravanserais, and one hundred and fifty hummums or baths. There are two Maidans; one in the town, the other within the ark, a square fortified palace, which contains all the establishments of the king, is surrounded by a wall and ditch, and is entered by two gates.

The Harem is most numerous, and contains a female establishment as extensive as the public household. All the officers of the king's court are there represented by females. There are women feroshes, and there is a woman ferosh bashee; women chatters, and a woman chatter bashee; there is a woman arz beggee, and a woman ish agassi; in short, there is a female duplicate for every male officer; and the King's service in the interior of the harem is carried on with the same etiquette and regularity, as the exterior economy of his state. The women of the harem, who are educated to administer to the pleasures of the king by singing and dancing, are instructed by the best masters that the country can supply. An Armenian at Shiraz was unfortunately renowned for performing excellently on the kamouncha. The fame of his skill reached the king's ears, and he was immediately ordered up to court on the charge of being the best kamouncha player

in his majesty's dominions. The poor man, who had a wife and family and commercial concerns at Shiraz, was during our stay detained at Teheran expressly to teach the king's women the art of playing on the kamouncha.

The king's family consists of 65 sons. As they make no account of females, it is not known how many daughters he may have; although he is said to have an equal number of both sexes. It sometimes happens, that many of his women are delivered on the same night, and (if we might give credit to a Persian) one of these happy coincidences occurred during our abode in the capital, when in one night six of his women were brought to bed, four of sons and two of daughters. The Ameen-ed-Doulah had one, indeed, of the babes at his house; and a present was sent for it from Ispahan, composed of four mules laden with all sorts of rich clothes.

The Tahkt-a-Cadjar is a pleasure house built by the present king, about two miles to the N.E. of Teheran. At a distance it presents a grand elevation, apparently of several stories; but these, on a nearer view, are the fronts of successive terraces. The entrance is through an indifferent gate, at the top of which is a summer-house. It leads into a spacious inclosure; in the middle is the principal walk, bounded on each side by some young cypress and poplar trees, and intersected at right angles in the centre by a stone channel, which conducts a stream at several intervals to small cascades. The building which stands on the first terrace is in form octagonal, crowned by a small flat roofed elevation.

It is open by arches on all its sides, and its raised ceiling is supported by pillars. Its interior is arranged in a variety of water-channels, and through the centre passes the principal stream, which runs through the whole building and grounds. This little pleasure-house, though built of coarse materials and but rudely furnished, is erected on an excellent model, and is admirably calculated for the heats of the summer. Under it are subterraneous chambers. Proceeding further, on another terrace is a grand pleasure-house, constructed on a less perfect principle than that of the first, though still sufficiently adapted for a summer retreat. Through this also water is introduced from a terrace above. Before this place is a very extensive square of water, in which, as we were told, there were fish; we saw none, but the water itself is most luxuriously clear and refreshing. From this we ascended up two terraces much more elevated than the first; on these there were only small reservoirs, from which the water was continually falling into the basins on the successive descents, at the height perhaps of twenty feet between each terrace.

At length we entered the main body of the building, which, like all other Persian houses, consists of a large square court lined on all sides with rooms of various dimensions and uses. The choicest apartment of the whole is a small one, placed in the very summit of the building, where every species of native workmanship in painting, glazing, and Mosaic, has been collected. We found here portraits of women, Europeans as well as Persians. The glass is beautifully

painted, and the doors are prettily worked and inlaid with poetical quotations carved in ivory. From this there is a delightful view of the town and country. In the other rooms below, there are several pictures of the king and his favourites; one of the subjects is singular, as it represents his majesty in the costume of a sick man.

The whole of this place is of brick, except the exterior wall, which is mud, flanked however by brick turrets. It is much inferior in workmanship to any of the brick buildings either of Kerim Khan, or of the Seffis. The soil on which it is erected is indeed ill-adapted to the purpose, as it is salt; and the salt oozes out through the walls and materially undermines their solidity.

The king is building another summer residence, half a mile from the town, called the Negaristan. One house is finished, consisting however of only an arched room, in which are various channels for water and playing fountains. In the garden we found water-cresses, of the eatableness of which the Persians appeared totally ignorant.

The climate of Teheran is variable, in consequence of its situation at the foot of high mountains, which on the other side are backed by such a sea as the Caspian. For the earlier part of our stay it was moderate; till the 10th of March, the thermometer, which was suspended near an open window in a room unexposed to the sun, was at 51° Fahrenheit. On the 10th, throughout the whole day, there was much snow; indeed on the following morning, when the thermometer

thermometer was at 47° , the heat of the sun produced a partial thaw, which was succeeded by a frost so sharp, that before the close of the day, an officer of the suite, who weighed fourteen stone, was able to walk and slide upon a square reservoir before the Dewan Khonéh, even though the surface had been already broken at one corner. The fall of snow was a seasonable supply of moisture to the country, which had long been without any. On the new moon of March (the 15th of the month) the rain began, and for some days continued regularly, clearing up about four or five hours before sunset, and gathering again at night. From the height of the walls which surrounded us, and the want of weathercocks or chimnies, I could collect but imperfectly the quarter of the wind; but, as far as I could judge, it was generally from the S. E. There is a wind sometimes rushing from the Albores on the N. of the bleakness of which the natives speak with dread. From the 23d March (the first quarter of the moon) we had the true ethereal mildness of spring, with light breezes from the westward in the evening. Vegetation was making rapid advances: the rose-trees in the court of our house were already green, and the chenars had just begun to bud. The snow on the Albores was diminishing fast; and the weather generally, which sometimes lowered and then brightened up, [was that of an English spring. The thermometer was about 61° to 64° , but in the middle of the day it reached 75° , and the heat in the close streets of the town was very sensible. In the first week of April the morn-

ings were beautiful; but about noon a hot wind set in from the S. E. which increased towards the evening, and died away at night. About the second week, the weather became cooler. Every thing was in high foliage, and all our horses were at grass. The heat was then becoming great; on the 19th the thermometer was at 82° in the shade, and at night we had thunder and lightning with a thick haze over the Albores. On the 21st the temperature, which in the interval had been at 86° , sunk to 67° . On the night of the 20th there had been a storm: and on the dawn of day we discovered that the Albores, which before had lost their snow, were again covered. These transitions are common to situations like that of Teheran. The rain refreshed the air, and gave strength to the grass, which in the more immediate neighbourhood of the town requires much moisture to enable it to pierce the hardness of the soil. From this time the days continued cool, with rain and frequent storms; and the evenings became almost piercing; but the showers gave a new force to vegetation.

Teheran is considered an unwholesome situation. The town is low and built on a salt, moist soil. In the summer the heats are said to be so insufferable, that all those who are able (all perhaps except a few old women) quit the town and live in tents nearer the foot of the Albores, where it is comparatively cool.

It is interesting to trace the progress of a capital. At about the same distance from Rhages, (at which the present city of Teheran may be placed from the remains of

Rey)

Rey) appears the town Tahora, in the Theodosian tables : a sufficient presumption that Teheran itself had an original and independent existence, and did not rise only from the ruins of the greater metropolis. Its continuance as a contemporary city cannot now be traced distinctly ; it may indeed have borne a different name in Eastern geography, as it is the Teheran or Cherijar of Tavernier, It re-appears however under its present name in the journey of the Castilian ambassadors to Timur, at a period when the greatness of Rey was still very considerable. At the end of two centuries, Pietro della Valle re-visited it. He calls it the city of planes ; tom. ii. 390 : the soil is probably particularly adapted to the tree ; for Olivier mentions one in the neighbourhood that measured round an excrescence at the root, seventy feet ; tom. v. p. 102. About the same time with Della Valle, Herbert described it fully. It is the Tyroan of his travels. Tavernier notices it more perhaps from the materials of others than from his own observations, tom. i. 313 : and Chardin speaks of it only as "petite ville." Tom. ii. p. 120. Its name occurs with scarcely a line of comment, in a route given by Hanway, vol. 1. ; and though it was a place of some interest in the reign of Nadir, its actual state cannot be collected with any certainty till the accession of the present dynasty. It had long indeed been the capital of a province ; and its name had been frequently connected with objects of importance in the history of the last two centuries ; yet it owes its more immediate pre-eminence to the

events of the last few years. It had been so much destroyed by the Affghans, (when after the battle of Salmanabad they invested it, in the hope of seizing Shah Thamas, who had retired thither) that Aga Mahomed, the late king, may be considered as almost its second founder. Its nearness to its own tribe and province ; the facilities of raising instantaneously from the wandering tribes around it a large force of cavalry ; and its central situation between the general resources of his empire and the more exposed frontiers, combined to justify his choice of Teheran as the capital of Persia. It has risen rapidly. In 1797 Olivier describes it as little more than two miles in circumference, and of the whole area the palace occupied more than one-fourth. Tom. v. p. 89. In 1809, it is stated to be between four and a half and five miles round the walls. The population, according to Olivier, even with all the encouragement which Aga Mahomed afforded to settlers, and including his own household of three thousand persons, amounted in 1797, to only fifteen thousand persons. Gardanne describes it, ten years afterwards, as having more than fifty thousand inhabitants during the winter ; though he notices the almost total desertion of the city during the heats of summer.

(Description of Arz-Roum, from the same.)

Arz-roum is built on a rising ground : on the highest part is the castle, surrounded by a double wall of stone, which is chequered at the top by embrazures, and strengthened here and there by projections
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in the fashion of bastions, with openings fit for the reception of cannon. It has four gates, which are covered with plates of iron. The whole is well built, and to me does not appear the work of Mussulmans. A ditch runs by it to the S. W.; near it is a tannery; and further on is a row of blacksmiths' forges, which seemed in good employ. In this direction (N. E. of the town) is the custom-house, a spacious building. The Pacha's residence has a large gate opening into a court-yard. The houses are in general built of stone, with rafters of wood, and terraced. Grass grows on their tops, and sheep and calves feed there; so that when seen from an eminence, the roofs of the houses can hardly be distinguished from the plain at their foundation. I walked through most of the bazars; few are domed, the rest are terraced, like the dwellings, but affording a common road for foot-passengers, who ascend by a public flight of steps. Wherever a street intervenes, a bridge is thrown over and the line continues uninterrupted. The shops in the bazars are well stocked, and the place exhibits an appearance of much industry. The streets are mostly paved; but, as in Turkey, in that manner which is more calculated to break the passenger's neck than to ease his feet. There are sixteen baths, and one hundred mosques; several of the latter are creditable buildings, the domes of which are covered with lead, and ornamented with gilt balls and crescents.

This is the present state of Arz-roum, its remains prove that it must have been still more considerable. Every thing attests the antiquity of

the place; the inhabitants indeed date the foundation from the time of Noah, and very zealously swear, that some of their present structures were contemporary with the patriarch; with less hazard of truth or rather with much appearance of probability, they aver that others were the work of the Giaours, or Infidels. One in particular is attributed to the latter origin; it consists of an arched gateway, curiously worked all in strong stone, situated N. W. in the castle, and close to a decayed minaret of ancient structure. Yet many of the older fabrics appear, by the true Moresque arch, to be certainly of Saracenic origin; and many of the remains of mosques resemble those buildings in Persia, with curious bricks, and lacquered tiles, which were raised in the first ages of Mahomedanism. In all those at Arz-roum, I observed a round tower, with a very shelving roof, covered all over with bricks. There are still erect several minarets, obviously works of the early Mussulmans. Near the eastern gate of the castle are two of brick and tile, and a gate (with a Saracenic arch and a Cufic inscription) and many strong stone buildings around, the remains of the fine portico of a mosque. To the east of the town is an old tower of brick, the highest building in Arz-roum, which is used as a look-out-house, and serves as the tower of the Janizaries at Constantinople, or that of Galata. There is a clock at the summit, which strikes the hours with sufficient regularity.

In Arz-roum there are from four to five thousand families of the Armenian, and about one hundred of the Greek, persuasion: the former

mer have two churches, the latter one. There are perhaps one thousand Persians who live in a caravanserai, and manage by caravans the trade of their own country. Trebisonde is the port on the Black Sea, to which the commerce of Constantinople is conveyed. The Turkish inhabitants of Arz-roum are fifty thousand families. This amount of the population I give from the authority of a well-informed Armenian; but as all such details in a country so ill-regulated are exceedingly suspicious, I have already taken the liberty to deduct more than one-third from the number of Turkish families in the original estimate. But the reduced statement still leaves in Arz-roum, at the rate of five persons in a family, a total of two hundred and fifty thousand persons besides Armenians.

The climate of Arz-roum is very changeable, and must in winter be piercingly cold. It rained throughout the whole of the 19th, but the clouds dispersed on the morrow, and discovered the adjacent hills overspread with snow. The high lands which arise from the plain around, attract constant thunderstorms; the elevation, indeed, of the whole region from the base of the sea itself is very considerable, and is sufficient to account for the cold.

INHABITANTS OF BUENOS AYRES.

From Mawe's Travels in Brazil.

The population of Buenos Ayres and its immediate suburbs, exclusive of the country in its vicinity,

has been ascertained to amount to upwards of sixty thousand souls. The proportion of females to males is said to be as four to one, but if we take into consideration that many men are almost daily arriving from Europe, as well as from the South American provinces, and that under the old government neither the militia nor the marine was recruited from the mass of the population, we shall find reason to conclude that the proportion of the sexes is not so unequal. In the interior the excess of males is very great, for as the lands are granted in large tracts only, and but poorly cultivated, there is no encouragement for the labouring classes to marry and settle upon them. The poor are compelled to remain single from the very bare resources on which they depend for subsistence, and are accustomed to consider the married states as fraught with heavy burthens and inevitable misfortunes. It is not uncommon to find estates larger than an English county with hardly more than a hundred labourers upon them, who subsist upon the sale of a little corn which each is permitted to grow for himself, but only to such an extent as a single man can plough.

The various races which compose the population are as follow:—

1. Legitimate Spaniards or Europeans. In Buenos Ayres there are about three thousand; in the interior the number is very trifling, except in Potosi, which, being a mining country, contains many.

2. Creoles; legitimate descendants from Spaniards or Europeans.

3. Mestizos,

3. Mestizos, the offspring of European and Indian parents.

4. Indians, almost all of whom have some mixture of Spanish blood.

5. Brown mixtures of Africans and Europeans.

6. Mulattos of various degrees,

All these races intermix without restraint, so that it is difficult to define the minor gradations, or to assign limits to the ever-multiplying varieties. Few families are entirely exempt from characteristics of Indian origin, physical as well as moral. It is well-known that in the Spanish colonies little regard is now paid to purity of blood; the various regulations for preserving the races distinct have gradually become obsolete. This may be regarded as a momentary evil; but may it not be conducive in the long-run to the good of society, by concentrating the interests of the various classes, which, in remaining separate might one day endanger the stability of the government, as has been the case in the French colony of St. Domingo?

In describing the orders of society in Buenos Ayres, it is necessary to premise that I mean to class them, not by degrees of birth, rank, or profession, but by the relative estimation in which they stand in point of property or public usefulness.

According to this scale, the first which comes under consideration is the commercial class. Every person belonging to it, from the huckster at the corner of the street, to the opulent trader in his warehouse, is dignified by the appellation of merchant; yet few individuals among them can lay just claim

to that title, as they are wanting in that practical knowledge so essential in commercial dealings. They are averse to all speculation and enterprise; the common routine of their business is, to send orders to Spain for the articles they need, and to sell by retail at an exorbitant profit; beyond this they have hardly a single idea, and it has been said that their great reason for opposing a free trade with foreign nations is a consciousness of their own mercantile inexperience. The more considerable houses are almost all branches of some European establishment; few of the Creoles have any regular trade. Those among them however who engage in it are much more liberal in their transactions than the old Spaniards, and are observed to make less rapid fortunes, for their manly and independent character makes them spurn a miserable economy, and disdain to assume that church-going hypocrisy which must be practised twice or thrice a-day by those who would enrich themselves through the patronage of the opulent families. Among the inferior tradesmen, those who gain most are the pulperos, the warehousemen and the shopkeepers. The pulperos retail wine, brandy, candles, sausages, salt, bread, spices, wood, grease, brimstone, &c. Their shops are generally lounging-places for the idle and dissipated of the community. In Buenos Ayres there are about seven hundred of them, each more or less in the interest of some richer individual. The warehousemen sell earthen and glass ware, drugs, various articles of consumption, and some goods of home manufacture, whole-

sale

sale and retail. The shopkeepers amount to nearly six hundred in number; they sell woollen cloths, silks, cottongoods of all sorts, hats, and various other articles of wearing apparel. Many of them make considerable fortunes, those especially who trade to Lima, Peru, Chili, or Paraguay, by means of young men whom they send as agents or factors. There is another description of merchants, if such they may be called, who keep in the back-ground and enrich themselves by monopolizing victuals, and by forestalling the grain brought to market from the interior, much to the injury of the agricultural interest.

The second class of inhabitants consists of the proprietors of estates and houses. They are in general Creoles, for few Europeans employ their funds in building, or in the purchase of land, until they have realised a fortune to live upon, which commonly takes place when they are far advanced in life, so that their establishments pass immediately into the hands of their successors. The simple landholders derive so little revenue from their possessions, that they are generally in debt to their tradesmen; their gains are but too commonly engrossed by the monopolists, and having no magistrate to represent them, they find themselves destitute of effectual resources against wrong and extortion. So defective and ill-regulated are the concerns of agriculture in this country, that the proprietor of an estate really worth 20,000 dollars can scarcely subsist upon it.

Under the class of landed proprietors I may reckon the cul-

tivators, here called *quinteros* or *chacareros*, who grow wheat, maize, and other grain. These men are so depressed and impoverished that, notwithstanding the importance of their calling, and the public usefulness of their labours, they are ranked among the people of least consequence in society.

The third class is composed of handicraftsmen, such as masons, carpenters, tailors, and shoe-makers, who, although they work hard and receive great wages, seldom realise property. The journeymen are usually people of colour; the masters for the most part Genoese, and universally foreigners, for the Spaniards despise these trades, and cannot stoop to work along with negroes or mulattos. Many of the lower orders derive subsistence from these and other employments of a similar nature; here are lime-burners, wood-cutters, tanners, curriers, &c. The free porters constitute a numerous body of men; they ply about the streets to load and unload carts, and carry burdens, but they are so idle and dissolute, that no man can depend on their services for a week together; when they have a little money, they drink and gamble, and when penniless, they sometimes betake themselves to pilfering. These habits have long rendered them a public nuisance, but no corrective measures have hitherto been taken, nor does there appear, on the part of the higher orders, any disposition to reform them.

Persons employed in public offices may be comprehended under the fourth class. The best situations under government are held

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by native Spaniards ; those of less emolument by Creoles ; the former are regarded as mere sinecures, and the persons enjoying them are considered as in no way serviceable to the community except by spending their large salaries within it.

The fifth class is the militia or soldiery. Previous to the invasion of the English, the officers were not much noted for military science, or for that ardour which leads to the acquisition of it ; their chief ambition was, to obtain commands in towns and villages, especially those on the Portuguese frontier, where they might enrich themselves by smuggling. The privates were ill-disciplined, badly dressed, and badly paid. The effective force which the crown of Spain maintained in these possessions was one regiment of the line, which was to consist of 1,200 men, but was reduced to less than half ; one regiment of dragoons amounting to 600, two of cavalry called blandengues, 600 each, and one or two companies of artillery. With the exception of the blandengues, all the troops were originally sent from the Peninsula, but not having for the last twenty years been recruited from thence, their ranks were gradually filled by natives. By eminence they were called veterans, but they have been of late disbanded, and their officers have passed to the command of the new corps which were formed on the English invasion. The force of these corps may be estimated at nine thousand men.

The sixth class is the clergy, in number about a thousand. The seculars are distinguished by their learning, honour, and probity, from the friars, who are in general so

grossly ignorant and superstitious that they render no real service to the public in any way, but rather tend to disturb the minds of the honest and well-disposed.

Every observation I was able to make gave me a favourable idea of the general character of the people: they are tractable, prudent, and generous ; and doubtless, had they been under a milder and more beneficent government than that of the Spaniards, they might have become a model to other colonies ; but it is lamentable to add, that in points of morality they cannot be considered as much superior to the other inhabitants of America. This is attributable to the want of a proper system of education for youth, to the pernicious example afforded by the vices of the Europeans, and, in a word, to the prevalence of an intolerant system, which, by aiming to make men what they cannot be, cause them to become what they ought not to be. The excessive rigour exercised by the ministers of worship as well as by the government, for the suppression of immorality, defeats its own end ; it is like the unskilful practice of a physician, which, directed solely against the external symptoms, aggravates instead of removing the disease. Thus, while open profligacy is discountenanced in Buenos Ayres, libertinism of a more dangerous kind is connived at, if not tolerated ; the peace of the most respectable private families is liable to be destroyed by votaries of seduction, who respect neither the purity of female virtue, nor the sacred rights of matrimony. This evil pervades all classes of society, and is the source of domestic disputes, which often lead to serious consequences.

DESCRIPTION

DESCRIPTION OF ST. PAUL'S

(From the same.)

St. Paul's is situated on a pleasing eminence of about two miles in extent, surrounded on three sides by low meadow land, and washed at the base by rivulets, which almost insulate it in rainy weather; it is connected with the high-land by a narrow ridge. The rivulets flow into a pretty large stream called the Tieti, which runs within a mile of the town in a south-west direction. Over them there are several bridges, some of stone and others of wood, built by the late governor. The streets of St. Paul's, owing to its elevation (about 50 feet above the plain), and the water which almost surrounds it, are in general remarkably clean; the material with which they are paved, is lamillary grit-stone, cemented by oxide of iron, and containing large pebbles of rounded quartz, approximating to the conglomerate. This pavement is an alluvial formation containing gold, many particles of which metal are found in the chinks and hollows after heavy rains, and at such seasons are diligently sought for by the poorer sort of people.

This city was founded by the Jesuits, who were probably tempted by the gold mines in the vicinity, more than by the salubrity of its air, which however is not excelled by any on the whole continent of South America. The medium of the thermometer here is between 50 and 80 degrees; in a morning I have observed it at 48, and even lower, though I was not there in the winter months. The rains are by no means heavy or of long continuance, and the thunder

storms are far from being violent. The cold in the evenings was frequently so considerable that I was obliged to shut my doors and windows, put on more clothes, and have a pan of embers in the room, there being no chimneys.

Here are several squares, and about thirteen places of religious worship, namely, two convents, three monasteries, and eight churches, the greater part of which, as well as of the whole town, is built of earth. The mode of erecting the walls is as follows: a frame is constructed of six moveable planks placed edge-wise, opposite each other, and secured in this position by cross-pieces bolted with moveable pins. Earth is put in by small quantities, which the workmen beat with rammers and occasionally moisten with water to give it consistency. Having filled the frame or trough, they remove it and continue the same operation till the whole shell of the house is completed, taking care to leave vacancies and put in the window frames, door-frames, and beams as they proceed. The mass in course of time becomes indurated, the walls are pared perfectly smooth inside, and take any colour the owners choose to give them; they are generally enriched with very ingenious devices. This species of structure is durable; I have seen some houses thus built that have lasted two hundred years, and most of them have several stories. The roofs are made to project two or three feet beyond the wall, in order to throw off the rain to a distance from the base; spouts might be a more effectual preservative against wet, but their use is little known here. They cover their houses with gutter-

gutter-tiles, but though the country affords excellent clay and plenty of wood, very few bricks are burnt.

The population of this place amounts to full fifteen thousand souls: perhaps nearer twenty thousand; the clergy, including all ranks of religious orders, may be reckoned at five hundred. They are in general good members of society, free from that excessive bigotry and illiberality which is the reproach of the neighbouring colonies; and their example has so beneficial an effect on the rest of the inhabitants, that I may presume to say, no stranger will be molested while he acts as a gentleman, and does not insult the established religion. His Excellency the Bishop is a most worthy prelate; and were the inferior orders in his diocese to follow his steps in cultivating the sciences, and diffusing useful information, they would command greater respect from their flocks, and by that means further the interest of the religion they profess. Priests, so ignorant, can hardly escape contempt.

No endemial diseases at present prevail here. The small-pox formerly, and indeed of late, made great havock among the inhabitants, but its progress has been checked by the introduction of vaccine inoculation. Professors attended at a large hall belonging to the governor, to which the public were invited, and the operation was performed gratis. It is to be hoped that the credit of this preventative will make its way among the people here, for they are not competent to enter into the merits of that controversy which injured it in Europe.

Here are few manufactures of any consequence; a little coarse cotton is spun by the hand, and woven into cloth, which serves for a variety of wearing apparel, sheets, &c. They make a beautiful kind of net-work for hammocks, which are fringed with lace, and form an elegant piece of furniture, being slung low, so as to answer the purpose of sofas. The ladies are particularly fond of using them, especially when the heat of the weather disposes them to ease and indolence. The making of lace is a general employment for females, some of whom excel in it. The shop-keepers here are a numerous class, who, as in most colonial towns, deal in almost every thing, and sometimes make great fortunes. Here are few doctors, of medicine, but many apothecaries; some silversmiths, whose articles are equally indifferent both in metal and workmanship; tailors and shoe-makers in great numbers; and joiners, who manufacture very beautiful wood, but are not so moderate in their charges as the former classes of tradesmen. In the out-skirts of the city live a number of Creolian Indians, who make earthen-ware for culinary purposes, large water-jars, and a variety of other utensils ornamented with some taste. The greatest proportion of the inhabitants consists in farmers and inferior husbandmen, who cultivate small portions of land, on which they breed large stocks of pigs and poultry for sale. With these the market is generally well supplied, and in the fruit-season is also stored with pines, grapes, peaches, guavas, bananas, a few apples, and an enormous quantity of quinces.

Esculent

Esculent plants are grown in great profusion and variety. Here is a favourite bulbous root called the Cara, which is equal to the best potato, and even more farinaceous; it grows to about five inches in diameter, and affords excellent food either boiled or roasted. Here are fine cabbages, salad herbs, turnips, cauliflowers, artichokes, and potatoes; the latter, though very good, are little used: the sweet potato is in greater request among the natives. Maize, beans, green peas, and every species of pulse flourish amazingly. Fowls are cheap; we bought some at three-pence and sixpence each; small pigs from one to two shillings, and flicthes of bacon, cured after the mode of the country, at about two-pence per pound. Turkeys, geese, and ducks are abundant, and reasonable in price; the latter are of the Muscovy breed, enormously large, some weighing ten or fourteen pounds. Here is a singular breed of cocks; they resemble the common English in plumage and shape, but they crow very loud, and continue their last note for a minute or two. When their voice is good, they are much esteemed, and are sent for as curiosities, from all parts of Brazil. The cattle are in general good, considering that so little attention is paid to feeding them; when their pastures are full of grass, they are tolerably fat, but when otherwise they become lean. A drove may be bought at 24*s.* or 30*s.* a head; beef at about a penny or three-halfpence per pound. The curriers have a singular method of blackening cow-hides and calfskins: when they have prepared them for that operation, they search for some mud-hole at the bottom of a ferruginous stratum,

a ditch for instance; with the mud they cover that side of the skin required to be stained; and they prefer this material to the solution of copperas, probably with reason, as the sulphate of iron formed by the decomposed pyrites acts more mildly in this state than when applied in the common way.

The horses are very fine, and in general docile; when well trained they make excellent chargers. Their size is from twelve and a half to fourteen hands and a half, and they vary in price from three pounds to twelve. Mules, as we have before observed, are considered more useful beasts of burden. The breed of sheep is quite unattended to, and mutton is rarely or never eaten. Here is a very fine and large breed of goats, whose milk is generally used for domestic purposes. The dogs are very indifferently, and of no distinct race.

DESCRIPTION OF RIO DE JANEIRO.

(From the same.)

Rio de Janeiro has been so often described by former travellers, that, were I to confine myself to the supply of what they have omitted, or to the correction of their mis-statements, my task would be speedily performed; but, as I have uniformly chosen to write freely from my own observations rather than follow the track of others, I shall trespass on the reader with a more detailed account than he might perhaps require. It will, however, be recollected that the period at which I visited this capital being a political æra in the annals of Brazil, is sufficiently interesting to excuse if not to justify me in the attempt to improve upon descriptions

descriptions of an earlier date, though at the risk of a little repetition.

The finest view of the city is from the harbour, whence its lofty eminences crowned with convents, and the hills in its environs, interspersed with villas and gardens, have a rich and magnificent appearance. The royal palace skirts the beach, and is seen to great advantage from the principal landing-place, which is within sixty yards of its doors. This palace, though small, is the residence of the Prince Regent and the royal family: the mint and the royal chapel form parts of the structure. Parallel with the beach runs the main street, consisting of noble buildings, called Rua de Dereito, from which the minor streets branch off at right angles, and are intersected by others at regular distances.

Some idea of the extent of the city may be formed from the population, which, including the negroes (its most numerous portion), is estimated at a hundred thousand souls: the dwellings are generally of one story only.

The numerous convents and churches are well built, and rather handsome; the cathedral, now nearly finished, is in a superior style of architecture. The streets were formerly incommoded by latticed balconies, which had a very heavy appearance and obstructed the circulation of the air, but they have been taken away by order of government. The greatest nuisances now remaining are those which arise from the custom of persons of all ranks on horseback to ride on foot-paths, and from the preposterous hanging of shop and house doors, which all open outward into the street, to the

great annoyance of foot-passengers: I may also add the frequent pools of stagnant water which, from the lowness of the site, cannot without much labour be drained away, and which, through the heat of the weather, emit the most putrid exhalations. Water for the use of the city flows from the hills through aqueducts, and is distributed to several fountains in various public places. It is to be regretted that there are not more of these for the supply of the inhabitants, numbers of whom live a mile distant from any of them, and are obliged to employ persons continually in carrying water: many of the poorer classes earn a living by selling it. The fountains in dry weather are frequently so crowded, that the carriers have to wait for hours before they can be supplied. The water is good, and, when kept in large jars, drinks cool and pleasant. The inns and public houses are almost destitute of accommodations, and so very uncomfortable that a stranger will not reside in them if he can find a friend to take him in. House-rent in general is equally high as in London, owing, it should seem, to the dearth of building materials and the high price of masonry. Timber in particular is unaccountably scarce, considering the quantity which grows in almost every part of Brazil; even fire-wood is dear. Provisions are in general plentiful, but not very choice in quality: the beef is very indifferent, and indeed bad; the pork is better, and, if the feeding were properly attended to, might be rendered fine; mutton is almost unknown, as the natives will not eat it; the poultry of every description are excellent, but they are very dear.

Pulse and vegetables of all kinds are very abundant, and the fish-market is not ill supplied. Turtles are frequently caught, as well as a great variety of fish; here are abundance of very fine large prawns. The oysters and muscles, though not equal to ours, are very tolerable.

Owing to its low situation, and the general filthiness of its streets, Rio de Janeiro cannot be called healthful. Improvements are now making which will in part remedy these evils; but other causes tend to increase the insalubrity of the air, and to spread contagious distempers, the principal of which are the large importations of negroes from Africa, who commonly land in a sickly state, the consequence of close confinement during a hot voyage. It is much to be regretted that the city was not originally built on the plan of those in the Netherlands, with canals for brigs and small vessels, which might then have been unloaded at the doors of the warehouses: such an improvement would have also greatly tended to the cleanliness and salubrity of the town.

The police is by no means ill regulated; and, from the attention which has been paid to it since the arrival of the court, there is every hope that it will be placed on a footing equally respectable with that of any European capital. The prisons are loathsome, and require the benevolent genius of a Howard to reform them altogether. One great step in favour of humanity has been gained: the inquisition has been abolished, and with it the spirit of persecution, so that no one can now be offended for his religious tenets, unless he

openly insult the established religion.

This city is the chief mart of Brazil, and especially of the provinces of Minas Geraes, St. Paul's, Goyazes, Cuyaba, and Corritiva. The mining districts, being most populous, require the greatest proportion of consumable goods, and in return send the most valuable articles of commerce, hence innumerable troops of mules are continually travelling to and from those districts; their common burden is about three cwt. each, which they carry to the almost incredible distance of 1,500 or 2,000 miles. Their homeward freight consists chiefly of salt for the consumption of the cattle, and iron for the working of the mines.

No colonial port in the world is so well situated for general commerce as Rio de Janeiro. It enjoys, beyond any other, an equal convenience of intercourse with Europe, America, Africa, the East Indies, and the South Sea islands, and seems formed by nature as a grand link to connect the trade of those great portions of the globe. Commanding also, as the capital of a rich and extensive territory, resources of immense amount and value, it seemed to require only the presence of an efficient government to give it political importance, and this advantage it has now gained by becoming the chosen residence of the court of Portugal. The benefits resulting from this great event had but just begun to display themselves at the period to which this narrative refers, and the commercial relations of Rio de Janeiro, though considerably augmented, were still but in their germ. I shall proceed to state them according to the best information

formation I was then able to procure.

The imports hither from the River Plate, and from Rio Grande de St. Pedro, consist in immense quantities of dried beef, tallow, hides, and grain. Those from the United States are chiefly salt provisions, flour, household furniture, pitch, and tar. The North Americans generally send cargoes of these articles on speculation, and, as the market for them is fluctuating and not to be depended on, they frequently take them to other ports. Their provisions are commonly sent to the Cape of Good Hope. They bring European merchandize, which they exchange for specie, wherewith to trade to China, and also take in necessaries on their voyages to the South Seas.

From the western coast of Africa, Rio de Janeiro imports wax, oil, sulphur, and some woods. The negro trade has been restricted to the kingdom of Angola by a decree of the Prince Regent, who has declared his intention of abolishing it altogether as soon as possible.

The trade to Mozambique is trivial; but, since the capture of the Isle of France by the British has cleared that coast from French privateers, it may be expected to increase. It affords many valuable products, such as gold-dust, brought from the interior, ivory, of which the prince monopolizes the largest sort, ebony, and other fine woods, drugs, oil, excellent columbo-root, and an abundance of various gums, particularly of the gum mení. The whale-fisheries on the coast have proved a source of riches to many speculators.

The intercourse of this port with India, in common with Mozam-

bique, has been much annoyed by the privateers of the Isle of France, and will, therefore, in all probability, flourish equally by their suppression. A voyage thither and back is performed with great expedition; one large ship of eight hundred tons sailed, loaded at Surat, and returned within the space of seven months. A voyage to China seldom occupies a longer period. The trade thither will no doubt be revived, and it is not improbable that this port may at no great distance of time become an entrepôt for India goods destined for Europe.

Rio de Janeiro is conveniently situated for supplying a great variety of necessaries to the Cape of Good Hope and to New South Wales; indeed, of late years, English manufactures have been sold here so cheap that it has been found more advantageous to ship them hence for those colonies than from home. Ships going on the South Sea whale-fishery touch here, and lay in large stocks of spirituous liquors, wine, sugar, coffee, tobacco, soap, and live stock.

The imports from the mother-country consist chiefly in wine and oil. From Sweden some iron is occasionally brought: it is preferred to English iron for mules' shoes, on account of its greater ductility.

The exports consist principally of cotton, sugar, rum, ship-timber, various fine cabinet woods, hides, tallow, indigo, and coarse cotton cloths, in immense quantities, for clothing the Peons in the provinces of the River Plate. Among the more precious articles of export may be enumerated gold, diamonds, topazes of various colours, amethysts, tourmalines (that are frequently sold for emeralds), chrysoberyls

chrysoberyls, aqua-marinas, and wrought jewelry.

VILLA RICA.

(From the same.)

The history of an establishment which, twenty years after its foundation, was reputed the richest place on the globe, was an object of considerable interest with me, and I made many inquiries respecting it from some of the best informed men on the spot. It appears that the first discovery of this once rich mountain was effected by the enterprising spirit of the Paulistas, who, of all the colonists in Brazil, retained the largest share of that ardent and indefatigable zeal for discovery which characterized the Lusitanians of former days. They penetrated from their capital into these regions, braving every hardship, and encountering every difficulty which a savage country, infested by still more savage inhabitants, opposed to them. They cut their way through impervious woods, carrying their provisions with them, and occasionally cultivating small patches of land to afford them food to retreat to, in case of necessity, as well as to keep up a communication with their city, St. Paul's. Every inch of ground was disputed by the barbarous Indians, here called Bootocoodies, who were constantly either attacking them openly or lying in ambush, and but too frequently succeeded in surprising some of them, or their negroes, whom they immediately sacrificed to their horrible appetite for human flesh. They believed the negroes to be the great monkeys of the wood. The bones of the

unfortunate sufferers were frequently found exposed, shocking testimonies of the barbarity of their murderers, whom the Paulistas, roused to revenge, invariably shot, wherever they met them. These examples of vengeance answered their desired end; the Indians, terrified as well by the noise as by the fatal effect of the fire-arms, fled with precipitation, believing that the white men commanded lightning and thunder.

It does not appear that in exploring this territory they received any assistance whatever from the Aborigines; they followed the course of rivers, occasionally finding gold, of which they skimmed the surface, and continued to proceed until they arrived at the mountain which is our present subject. Its riches arrested their course; they immediately erected temporary houses and began their operations. The principal men of the party that first settled here, were Antonio Dias, Bartholomew Rocinho, Antonio de Ferrera (filho), and Garcia Ruis. It appears that they took the most direct way to the place, for the roads they then opened are the same which are still used. The fame of their success soon reached the city of St. Paul's; fresh adventurers arrived in great numbers, bringing with them all the negroes they had means to purchase. Other adventurers went from St. Paul's to Rio de Janeiro to procure more negroes, their own city being drained, and thus the news of the lately discovered gold mountain being made known in the Brazilian capital, men of all descriptions went in crowds to this land of promise by the way of St. Paul's, which was the only route then known. The first

first settlers might have prevented the exposure of their good fortune, had they been able to moderate their joy, and consented to act in concert; but as gold was in such great abundance, every individual appropriated a lot of ground, and thus became a capitalist. Each strove which should make the most of his treasure in the shortest time, and thus there was a continual demand for more negroes, more iron, &c. and, in the general eagerness to obtain them, the secret which all were interested in keeping was disclosed. The Paulistas, independent in spirit, and proud of their wealth, were desirous of giving laws to the new-comers; but the latter determining to oppose this measure, formed themselves into a party under the guidance of Manuel Nunez Viana, an adventurer of some consequence, who strenuously asserted their claim to equal rights and advantages. Disputes arose on both sides, and were at length aggravated into hostilities, which proved unfavourable to the Paulistas, the greater part of whom fled to a considerable station of their own, and there awaited reinforcements. Viana and his followers, without loss of time, went in pursuit of their foes, whom they found on a plain near the site of St. Joao del Rey. The two parties met on the borders of a river, and a sanguinary battle took place, which ended in the defeat of the Paulistas, who afterwards made the best terms they could. The slain were buried on the margin of the river, which, from that circumstance, took the name of Rio das Mortes.

The Paulistas, bent on revenge, but weakened by defeat, appealed

to the sovereign, King Pedro, denouncing Viana and his followers as rebels, who were attempting to take the district to themselves, and set up an independent government. The king's ministers, apprized of the state of affairs, and learning by report the immense riches of the country, immediately sent a chief, with a competent body of troops, to take advantage of the strife between the two parties; which, in a country tenable by a few men on account of its numerous strong-holds, was a most fortunate circumstance. The name of this chief was Albuquerque; a man of enterprize and perseverance, in all respects qualified for the service on which he was sent. His appearance at first occasioned much confusion and discontent among both parties; and though he was not openly opposed, yet he was in continual alarm. The Paulistas now saw that the riches which they in conjunction with their rivals might have retained, were about to be seized by a third party which would reduce them both to subordination. Disturbances prevailed for some time, but reinforcements continually arriving from government, tranquillity was at length perfectly established; and in the year 1711 a regular town began to be formed; a government-house, a mint, and a depôt for arms were built. A code of laws was enacted for the regulation of the mines; all gold dust found was ordered to be delivered to officers appointed for that purpose; a fifth in weight was taken for the king, and the remaining four parts were purified, melted into ingots at the expense of government, then assayed, marked according to their value, and delivered

vered to the owners, with a certificate to render them current. For the greater convenience of trade, gold-dust was likewise permitted to circulate for small payments. Notwithstanding these strict regulations, a considerable quantity of the precious metal in its original state found its way to Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, and other ports, clandestinely, without paying the royal fifth, until government, apprized of this illicit traffic, established registers in various parts for the examination of all passengers, and stationed soldiers to patrol the roads. By these means, gold in immense quantities was seized and confiscated; the persons on whom any was found forfeited all their property, and, unless they had friends of great influence, were sent as convicts to Africa for life. The greatest disgrace was attached to the name of smuggler; and such was the rigour of the law against offenders of this description, that every person quitting the district was obliged to take a certificate stating whither he was going, and what he carried with him. This regulation is still in force, and is rigorously observed.

Villa Rica soon enjoyed a considerable trade with Rio de Janeiro; the returns were negroes, iron, woollens, salt, provisions of various kinds, and wine, all which at that time bore amazingly high profits.

About the year 1713, when Dr. Bras de Silvia was appointed governor, the quantity of gold produced was so considerable that the royal fifth amounted to half a million sterling annually. The mountain became pierced like a honey-comb, as the miners worked

every soft part they could find, and penetrated as far as they could, conveying the *cascalhao* which they dug out to a convenient place for washing. In rainy weather the torrents of water running down the sides of the mountain, carried away much earthy matter containing delicate particles of gold, which settled in the ground near its base. When the waters abated, this rich deposit gave employment to numbers of the poorer sort of people, who took it away and washed it at their convenience.

Antonio Dias, the person already mentioned as one of the leaders of the Paulistas, who discovered the place, having become extremely rich, built a fine church, and dying soon after, bequeathed to it considerable funds. It still bears his name. Five or six others were begun and soon finished, as neither wood nor stone was wanting, and the inhabitants were all ready to contribute a share of their property, and to employ their negroes in furtherance of these pious works. A law highly creditable to the wisdom of the Portuguese government was now enacted, to prohibit friars from entering the territory of the mines. What treasures were thus saved to the state, and what a number of persons were thus continued in useful labour, who would else have become burthensome to the community!

The town now underwent many improvements; its streets were more regularly built, and some parts of the side of the mountain were levelled to afford more convenient room for the construction of houses, and the laying out of gardens. Reservoirs were formed, from which water was distributed
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by means of conduits to all parts, and public fountains were erected in the most convenient and central situations. The mint and smelting-houses were enlarged, and rendered more commodious for the transaction of business. About this period the inhabitants amounted to twelve thousand or upwards; those who possessed mines were either the first settlers or their descendants, and as the best part of the district was occupied, the new adventurers who continued to arrive from time to time were obliged to enter into the service of the existing owners until they had learned their methods of working, after which they generally went in search of fresh mines, proceeding along the water-courses and ravines, where they sometimes discovered new sources of wealth. Between the years 1730 and 1750 the mines were in the height of their prosperity; the king's fifth during some years of that period is said to have amounted to at least a million sterling annually.

The mines which produced this immense wealth at length became gradually less abundant; and, as the precious metal disappeared, numbers of the miners retired, some to the mother-country, loaded with riches, which tempted fresh adventurers, and many to Rio de Janeiro and other sea-ports, where they employed their large capitals in commerce.

Villa Rica at the present day scarcely retains a shadow of its former splendor. Its inhabitants, with the exception of the shopkeepers, are void of employment; they totally neglect the fine country around them, which, by proper cultivation, would amply compen-

sate for the loss of the wealth which their ancestors drew from its bosom. Their education, their habits, their hereditary prejudices, alike unfit them for active life; perpetually indulging in visionary prospects of sudden wealth, they fancy themselves exempted from that universal law of nature which ordains that man shall live by the sweat of his brow. In contemplating the fortunes accumulated by their predecessors, they overlook the industry and perseverance which obtained them, and entirely lose sight of the change of circumstances which renders those qualities now doubly necessary.

DIAMOND MINE.

(From the same.)

The continual fatigues, and want of accommodation on the journey, had rendered me very unwell, and I was therefore desirous of resting a week at Tejuco before I proceeded to the diamond mines; but, learning that I had been expected for the last two or three days, I sent one of my soldiers up to the house of Mr. Fernando de Camara, the governor, to announce my arrival, and to state, that I was prevented by indisposition from personally paying my respects to him. He immediately came with a few friends to visit me, gave me a most hearty welcome to Tejuco, and staid with me at least three hours. I delivered to him my public and private letters, passports, and other credentials, which he perused with great satisfaction, observing to the Ouvidor and his friends, that I possessed the same privileges which they

they did, having permission from the court to see every place I wished, which they were directed to show me. He then told me that, in expectation of my arrival, he had delayed a journey to the greatest of the diamond works, called Mandanga, situated on the river Jigitonhonha, which employs about a thousand negroes, and on particular occasions double that number. He was desirous that I should see this great work with all the machinery in operation, which would be very speedily removed, the late rains having swoln the river so much as to render working more impracticable. He therefore kindly invited me to breakfast at his house on the following morning, when he would have all in readiness for a journey of about thirty miles to the place above-mentioned.

At an early hour I arose; and, though so unwell as to be scarcely more than half alive, I could not resist the favourable opportunity now offered me of gratifying the curiosity which had so long occupied my mind, by visiting the diamond mines, in company with the principal officer in the administration of them, who was therefore qualified to furnish me with the amplest information. A fine horse was waiting for me at the door, and I rode up to the house of the governor, who introduced me to his amiable lady, daughters, and family, with whom I had the honour to take breakfast. Several officers of the diamond establishment arrived on horseback to accompany us, their presence being required on this occasion.

At nine o'clock we set out, and crossed the ravine, watered by the small rivulet of St. Francisco, which

separates Tejuco from the opposite mountains. The road was very rough and uneven, continually ascending or descending mountains of considerable extent, the strata of which were grit alternating with micaceous schistus, and presenting an immense quantity of rude masses, composed of grit and rounded quartz, forming a loose and friable kind of pudding-stone. The country appeared almost destitute of wood, presenting occasionally a few poor shrubs; there were no cattle to be seen, yet some of the tracts would certainly maintain sheep in great numbers. Having halted at a place about half way, we descended a very steep mountain, full a mile in the declivity, and entered a ravine where we crossed a very good wooden bridge over the river Jigitonhonha, which is larger than the Derwent at Derby. We rode along its margin, where the land appears much richer, presenting a good vegetable soil covered with underwood; and, proceeding about a league, arrived at the famed place called Mandanga. The habitations, which are about one hundred in number, are built detached, and are generally of a circular form, with very high thatched roofs, like African huts, but much larger. The walls are formed of upright stakes, interwoven with small branches and coated with clay inside and out. The houses of the officers are of the same materials, but of much more convenient form, and whitewashed within. Near some of the houses we observed inclosures for gardens, which in some degree enlivened the prospect, and gave an air of comfort to these rude and simple dwellings.

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I remained here five days, during which I was occupied in viewing and examining various parts of the works, of which I shall here attempt to give a general description.

This rich river, formed by the junction of a number of streams, which will be hereafter noted, is as wide as the Thames at Windsor, and in general from three to nine feet deep. The part now in working is a curve or elbow, from which the current is diverted into a canal cut across the tongue of land round which it winds, the river being stopped just below the head of the canal by an embankment formed of several thousand bags of sand. This is a work of considerable magnitude, and requires the co-operation of all the negroes to complete it; for, the river being wide and not very shallow, and also occasionally subject to overflows, they have to make the embankment so strong as to resist the pressure of the water, admitting it to rise four or five feet.

The deeper parts of the channel of the river are laid dry by means of large caissons or chain-pumps, worked by a water-wheel. The mud is then carried off, and the cascalhao is dug up and removed to a convenient place for washing. This labour was, until lately, performed by the negroes, who carried the cascalhao in gamellas on their heads, but Mr. Canara has formed two inclined planes about one hundred yards in length, along which carts are drawn by a large water-wheel, divided into two parts, the ladles or buckets of which are so constructed, that the

rotatory motion may be altered by changing the current of water from one side to the other: this wheel by means of a rope made of untanned hides, works two carts, one of which descends empty on one inclined plane, while the other, loaded with cascalhao, is drawn to the top of the other, where it falls into a cradle, empties itself, and descends in its turn. At a work called Canjeca, formerly of great importance, about a mile up the river on the opposite side, there are three cylindrical engines for drawing the cascalhao, like those used in the mining country of Derbyshire, and also rail-ways over some uneven ground. This was the first and only machinery of consequence which I saw in the diamond district, and there appear many obstacles to the general introduction of it. Timber, when wanted of large size, has to be fetched a distance of one hundred miles at a very heavy expense; there are few persons competent to the construction of machines, and the workmen dislike to make them, fearing that this is only part of a general plan for superseding manual labour.

The stratum of cascalhao consists of the same materials with that in the gold district. On many parts, by the edge of the river, are large conglomerate masses of rounded pebbles cemented by oxide of iron, which sometimes envelop gold and diamonds. They calculate on getting as much cascalhao in the dry season as will occupy all their hands during the months which are more subject to rain. When carried from the bed of the river whence it is dug,
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it is laid in heaps containing apparently from five to fifteen tons each.

Water is conveyed from a distance, and is distributed to the various parts of the works by means of aqueducts, constructed with great ingenuity and skill. The method of washing for diamonds at this place is as follows :—A shed is erected in the form of a parallelogram, twenty-five or thirty yards long, and about fifteen wide, consisting of upright posts which support a roof thatched with long grass. Down the middle of the area of this shed a current of water is conveyed through a canal covered with strong planks, on which the cascalhao is laid two or three feet thick. On the other side of the area is a flooring of planks, from four to five yards long, imbedded in clay, extending the whole length of the shed, and having a slope from the canal, of three or four inches to a yard. This flooring is divided into about twenty compartments or troughs, each about three feet wide, by means of planks placed on their edge. The upper ends of all these troughs (here called canoes) communicate with the canal, and are so formed that water is admitted into them between two planks that are about an inch separate. Through this opening the current falls about six inches into the trough, and may be directed to any part of it, or stopped at pleasure by means of a small quantity of clay. For instance, sometimes water is required only from one corner of the aperture, then the remaining part is stopped; sometimes it is wanted from the center, then the extremes are stopped; and sometimes only a

gentle rill is wanted, then the clay is applied accordingly. Along the lower ends of the troughs a small channel is dug to carry off the water.

On the heap of cascalhao, at equal distances, are placed three high chairs for the officers or overseers. After they are seated, the negroes enter the troughs, each provided with a rake of a peculiar form and short handle, with which he rakes into the trough about fifty or eighty pounds weight of cascalhao. The water being then let in upon it, the cascalhao is spread abroad and continually raked up to the head of the trough, so as to be kept in constant motion. This operation is performed for the space of a quarter of an hour; the water then begins to run clearer, having washed the earthy particles away, the gravel-like matter is raked up to the end of the trough; after the current flows away quite clear, the largest stones are thrown out, and afterwards those of inferior size, then the whole is examined with great care for diamonds. When a negroe finds one, he immediately stands upright and claps his hands, then extends them, hold the gem between his fore-finger and thumb; an overseer receives it from him, and deposits it in a gamella or bowl, suspended from the center of the structure, half full of water. In this vessel all the diamonds found in the course of the day are placed, and at the close of work are taken out and delivered to the principal officer, who, after they have been weighed, registers the particulars in a book kept for that purpose.

When a negro is so fortunate as to find a diamond of the weight
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of an octavo (17½ carats), much ceremony takes place; he is crowned with a wreath of flowers, and carried in procession to the administrator, who gives him his freedom, by paying his owner for it. He also receives a present of new clothes, and is permitted to work on his own account. When a stone of eight or ten carats is found, the negro receives two new shirts, a complete new suit, with a hat and a handsome knife. For smaller stones of trivial amount proportionate premiums are given. During my stay at Tejuco a stone of 16½ carats was found: it was pleasing to see the anxious desire manifested by the officers that it might prove heavy enough to entitle the poor negro to his freedom, and when on being delivered and weighed, it proved only a carat short of the requisite weight, all seemed to sympathize in his disappointment.

Many precautions are taken to prevent the negroes from embezzling diamonds. Although they work in a bent position, and consequently never know whether the overseers are watching them or not, yet it is easy for them to omit gathering any which they see, and to place them in a corner of the trough for the purpose of secreting them at leisure hours, to prevent which they are frequently changed while the operation is going on. A word of command being given by the overseers, they instantly move into each other's troughs, so that no opportunity of collusion can take place. If a negro be suspected of having swallowed a diamond, he is confined in a strong room until the fact can be ascertained. Formerly the punishment

inflicted on a negro for smuggling diamonds was confiscation of his person to the state: but it being thought too hard for the owner to suffer for the offence of his servant, the penalty has been commuted for personal imprisonment and chastisement. This is a much lighter punishment than that which their owners or any white man would suffer for a similar offence.

There is no particular regulation respecting the dress of the negroes: they work in the clothes most suitable to the nature of their employment, generally in a waistcoat and a pair of drawers, and not naked, as some travellers have stated. Their hours of labour are from a little before sun-rise until sun-set, half an hour being allowed for breakfast, and two hours at noon. While washing they change their posture as often as they please, which is very necessary, as the work requires them to place their feet on the edges of the trough, and to stoop considerably. This posture is particularly prejudicial to young growing negroes, as it renders them in-kneed. Four or five times during the day they all rest, when snuff, of which they are very fond, is given to them.

The negroes are formed into working parties, called troops, containing two hundred each, under the direction of an administrator and inferior officers. Each troop has a clergyman and a surgeon to attend it. With respect to the subsistence of the negroes, although the present governor has in some degree improved it by allowing a daily portion of fresh beef, which was not allowed by his predecessors, yet I am sorry to observe that it is still poor and scanty; and in other

other respects they are more hardly dealt with than those of any other establishment which I visited: notwithstanding this, the owners are all anxious to get their negroes into the service, doubtless from sinister motives, of which more will be said hereafter.

The officers are liberally paid, and live in a style of considerable elegance, which a stranger would not be led to expect in so remote a place. Our tables were daily covered with a profusion of excellent viands, served up on fine Wedgewood ware, and the state of their household generally corresponded with this essential part of it. They were ever ready to assist me in my examination of the works, and freely gave me all the necessary information respecting them.

Having detailed the process of washing for diamonds, I proceed to a general description of the situations in which they are found. The flat pieces of ground on each side the river are equally rich throughout their extent, and hence the officers are enabled to calculate the value of an unworked place by comparison with the amount found on working in the part adjoining. These known places are left in reserve, and trial is made of more uncertain grounds. The following observation I often heard from the intendant: "That piece of ground" (speaking of an unworked flat by the side of the river) "will yield me ten thousand carats of diamonds, whenever we shall be required to get them in the regular course of working, or when, on any particular occasion, an order from government arrives, demanding an extraordinary and immediate supply."

The substances accompanying diamonds, and considered good indications of them, are bright bean-like iron ore, a slaty flint-like substance, approaching Lydian stone, of fine texture, black oxide of iron, in great quantities, rounded bits of blue quartz, yellow crystal, and other materials entirely different from any thing known to be produced in the adjacent mountains. Diamonds are by no means peculiar to the beds of rivers or deep ravines; they have been found in cavities and water-courses on the summits of the most lofty mountains.

I had some conversation with the officers respecting the matrix of the diamond, not a vestige of which could I trace. They informed me that they often found diamonds cemented in pudding-stone, accompanied with grains of gold, but that they always broke them out, as they could not enter them in the treasury, or weigh them with matter adhering to them. I obtained a mass of pudding-stone, apparently of very recent formation, cemented by ferruginous matter enveloping many grains of gold; and likewise a few pounds weight of the *cascalhao* in its unwashed state.

This river, and other streams in its vicinity, have been in washing many years, and have produced great quantities of diamonds, which have ever been reputed of the finest quality. They vary in size: some are so small that four or five are required to weigh one grain, consequently sixteen or twenty to the carat: there are seldom found more than two or three stones of from seventeen to twenty carats in the course of a year, and not once
in

in two years is there found throughout the whole washings a stone of thirty carats. During the five days I was here they were not very successful; the whole quantity found amounted only to forty, the largest of which was only four carats, and of a light green colour.

From the great quantity of debris, or worked cascalhao, in every part near the river, it is reasonable to calculate that the works have been in operation above forty years; of course there must arrive a period at which they will be exhausted, but there are grounds in the neighbourhood, particularly in the Cerro de St. Antonio, and in the country now inhabited by the Indians, which will probably afford these gems in equal abundance.

STATE OF SOCIETY AMONG THE
MIDDLING CLASSES EMPLOYED
IN MINING AND AGRICULTURE.

(From the same.)

We are naturally led to imagine, that, in the country where mines of gold and diamonds are found, the riches of the inhabitants must be immense, and their condition most enviable; the Portuguese themselves, who reside in the mining districts, encourage this supposition; and whenever they go to Rio de Janeiro, do not fail to make all possible show and parade. But let us view them in the center of their wealth; and as a fair criterion of the middling classes of society; let us select a man possessing a property of fifty or sixty negroes, with datas of gold mines, and the necessary utensils for working them. The negroes alone are worth,

at the low valuation of 100 milreis each, a sum equal to 1,200*l.* or 1,500*l.* sterling; the datas and utensils, though of value, need not be taken into the account. Suppose this man to be married, and to have a family: What is the state of their domestic concerns, their general way of life? May I be allowed to describe them in the language which truth dictates, without exaggeration or extenuation? Their dwelling scarcely merits the name of a house; it is the most wretched hovel that imagination can describe, consisting of a few apartments built up to each other without regularity; the walls wicker-work, filled up with mud; a hole left for a frame serves as a window, or a miserable door answers that purpose. The cracks in the mud are rarely filled up; and in very few instances only have I seen a house repaired. The floors are of clay, moist in itself, and rendered more disagreeable by the filth of its inhabitants, with whom the pigs not unfrequently dispute the right of possession. Some ranchos, it is true, are built upon piles; and underneath are the stables, &c. these are certainly a little superior to the former. They are built so from necessity, where the ground is uneven or swampy; but it may be easily conceived, that the disagreeable effects produced by want of cleanliness, must in these instances be increased by the effluvia from the animals underneath, which I have frequently found intolerable.

The furniture of the house is such as might be expected from the description above given. The beds are very coarse cotton cases, filled with dry grass, or the leaves of Indian corn. There are seldom

dom more than two in a house; for the servants generally sleep upon mats, or dried hides laid on the floor. The furniture consists of one or two chairs, a few stools and benches, one table, or perhaps two; a few coffee-cups and a coffee-pot of silver; a silver drinking cup, and, in some instances, a silver wash-hand basin, which, when strangers are present, is handed round with great ostentation, and forms a striking contrast to the rest of the utensils.

The general diet of the family consists of the same articles which have already been particularized in treating of St. Paul's. The only beverage is water; and nothing can be more frugal than the whole economy of the table. So intent is the owner in employing his slaves solely in employments directly lucrative, that the garden, on which almost the entire subsistence of the family depends, is kept in the most miserable disorder.

In the article of dress, they do not appear more extravagant than in that of food. The children are generally naked; the youths go without shoes, in an old jacket, and cotton trowsers; the men in an old capote or mantle wrapped around them, and wooden clogs, except when they go from home; and, on those occasions, they appear in all their splendor, forming as great a contrast to their domestic attire, as the gaudy butterfly does to the chrysalis from which it springs.

It might be expected, that however penuriously the general concerns of the family were conducted, at least some degree of attention and expense would be bestowed

on the dress of the females; for the test of civilization among all nations is the regard paid to the fair sex, on whom the happiness of domestic life depends. Yet the general poverty and meanness of their attire is such, that they reluctantly appear before any one, except the individuals of their own family.

In short, in all those departments of domestic economy, which to the middle classes of other civilized nations are objects of expense, the Brazilians exercise the most rigid parsimony. At first, I was inclined to attribute this disposition to the love of money, which prompted them to avoid all extravagance; but, on closer observation, I was surprised to find that it originated in necessity. They generally run in debt for the few articles they have to purchase, and sometimes find it difficult to maintain their negroes. If they purchase a mule, it is at one or two years' credit, and, of course, at double its ordinary price.

In such a family as that above described, the sons, as might be expected, are brought up in idleness; they are merely taught to read and write; rarely do they attend to the mining department; they learn no trade, nor are they instructed in any useful employment; for a miner, perhaps an ensign or a lieutenant of militia, would think it a disgrace to put his son apprentice to a mechanic. Suppose the father of this family to die when the sons have just attained the age of puberty. They are now for the first time obliged to think of providing for themselves. Educated in poverty and pride, they have learned to think all occupations servile,

servile, and their own is generally so poor as to be hateful to them. If they agree, not to divide the negroes, it generally happens that they run into debt, and continue in wretchedness; if they divide them, each takes his course, and adventures for himself, and in a short time, they are generally obliged to part with their slaves, and exist in indigence. Every useful pursuit and every comfort is neglected for the sake of seeking hidden treasures, which very rarely are found, and which when found are as rarely employed to advantage, but rather serve to increase the idleness of the owners.

Few, very few of the numerous class of miners from which the above instance is selected are rich, few are even comfortable; how wretched then must be the state of those who possess only eight or ten negroes, or whose property does not exceed three or four hundred pounds.

Thus situated in one of the finest climates in the world, with rich lands full of the finest timber, abounding in rivulets and waterfalls in every direction, containing, besides precious minerals, iron ores, and almost every other useful product, the inhabitants of Brazil, though secured from absolute want, remain in indigence. It is true, the miner procures his gold by great labour, but this need not preclude him from improving his domestic condition. Were his hovel converted into a house, his slaves better fed and lodged, and his family better provided for, his whole affairs would receive a new impulse, and every part of his property would become doubly productive.

Original Letter from Sir J. Stuart to the Right Honourable Sir David Dundas.

Messina, Nov. 25, 1810.

Sir,—I feel it necessary that I should apologize for the freedom to which I am prompted in addressing you on the subject of a newspaper paragraph; but an article having appeared in the English journals which have reached this country, stating that a French officer of this staff, and high in my confidence, had been discovered in dishonourable correspondence with the enemy, it becomes a duty from myself to every foreigner under my command, to take steps for your assurance that the assertion is a fabrication as groundless as it is infamous, and I am to lament that I have not been able to trace it beyond those anonymous sources against whose dark and dangerous attacks, neither rank, probity, nor conduct, can be secure.

Upon the staff of this army, Sir, there are many foreign gentlemen who owe their selections only to their talents; and I have never had occasion to learn that there were any British officers here who did not entertain the most liberal sentiments on the justice of such impartial distributions.—If the conduct of this army at large has any merit in the eyes of our country—that merit must be widely shared by foreigners who compose so great a proportion of its members.

When I had the honour of recently stating further to yourself, Sir, my respectful wish, that if my own conduct under any late circumstances of duty, should appear in the eye of his Majesty to deserve

deserve a mark of his most gracious approval, it might be conferred by a step of rank to my military secretary, Major De Sade, I gave the strongest test of my own estimate of an officer, who, though not born a subject of his Majesty, is distinguished by every principle of honour that could render him worthy his royal notice — and who, having been for fourteen years a sharer with myself in every professional duty in which I have

been employed, is, of course, a participator in any degree of merit which his Majesty or my country have been generously pleased, during that interval, to allow to my humble services.

I have the honour to be, with high respect, &c.

(Signed) J. STUART,
Count of Maida.

To General the Right Hon.
Sir David Dundas, K.B.
Cominander-in-chief.

POETRY.

FAREWELL ADDRESS,

Spoken by MRS. SIDDONS, on leaving the Stage 29th of June, 1812,
and written by HORACE TWISS, Esq.

WHO has not felt, how growing use endears
The fond remembrance of our former years?
Who has not sigh'd, when doom'd to leave at last
The hopes of youth, the habits of the past,
The thousand ties and interests, that impart
A second nature to the human heart,
And, wreathing round it close, like tendrils, climb,
Blooming in age, and sanctified by time?

Yes! at this moment crowd upon my mind
Scenes of bright days for ever left behind,
Bewildering visions of enraptured youth,
When hope and fancy wore the hues of truth,
And long-forgotten years; that almost seem
The faded traces of a morning dream!
Sweet are those mournful thoughts: for they renew
The pleasing sense of all I owe to you—
For each inspiring smile, and soothing tear—
For those full honours of my long career,
That cheer'd my earliest hope, and chased my latest fear! }

And though, for me, those tears shall flow no more,
And the warm sunshine of your smile is o'er,—
Though the bright beams are fading fast away
That shone unclouded through my summer-day;
Yet grateful memory shall reflect their light
O'er the dim shadows of the coming night,
And lend to later life a softer tone,
A moon-light tint, a lustre of her own.

Judges and Friends! to whom the tragic strain
Of nature's feeling never spoke in vain,

Perhaps your hearts, when years have glided by,
 And past emotions wake a fleeting sigh,
 May think on her, whose lips have pour'd so long
 The charmed sorrows of your Shakspeare's song;—
 On her, who, parting to return no more,
 Is now the mourner she but seemed before.—
 Herself subdued, resigns the melting spell,
 And breathes, with swelling heart, her long, her last farewell !!

A D D R E S S

ON THE

OPENING OF DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

WRITTEN BY LORD BYRON.

IN one dread night our city saw, and sighed,
 Bowed to the dust, the Drama's tower of pride;
 In one short hour beheld the blazing fane,
 Apollo sink, and Shakspeare cease to reign.

Ye who beheld, O sight, admired and mourned,
 Whose radiance mock'd the ruin it adorn'd!
 Through clouds of fire the massy fragments riven,
 Like Israel's pillar, chase the night from heav'n,
 Saw the long column of revolving flames
 Shake its red shadow o'er the startled Thames;
 While thousands throng'd around the burning dome,
 Shrunk back appalled, and trembled for their home;
 As glared the volumed blaze, and ghastly shone
 The skies, with lightnings awful as their own;
 Till blackening ashes and the lonely wall
 Usurped the Muse's realm, and marked her fall;
 Say—shall this new nor less aspiring pile.
 Reared, where once rose the mightiest in our isle,
 Know the same favour which the former knew,
 A shrine for Shakspeare—worthy him and *you*?

Yes, it shall be—the magic of that name
 Defies the scythe of time, the torch of flame,
 On the same spot still consecrates the scene,
 And bids the Drama *be* where she hath *been*:—
 This fabric's birth attests the potent spell;
 Indulge our honest pride, and say, *How well!*
 As soars this fane to emulate the last,
 Oh! might we draw our omens from the past.

Some

Some hour propitious to our prayers, may boast
 Names such as hallow still the dome we lost.
 On Drury first your Siddons' thrilling art
 O'erwhelm'd the gentlest, storm'd the sternest heart;
 On Drury, Garrick's latest laurels grew:
 Here your last tears retiring Roscius drew,
 Sigh'd his last thanks, and wept his last adieu.
 But still for living wit the wreaths may bloom
 That only *waste* their odours o'er the tomb.
 Such Drury claimed, and claims,—nor you refuse
 One tribute to revive his slumbering muse;
 With garlands deck your own Menander's head;
 Nor hoard your honours idly for the dead!

Dear are the days which made our annals bright,
 Ere Garrick fled, or Brinsley cease to write.
 Heirs to their labours, like all high-born heirs,
 Vain of *our* ancestry as they of theirs;
 While thus Remembrance borrows Banquo's glass,
 To claim the sceptred shadows as they pass,
 And we the mirror hold, where imaged shine
 Immortal names emblazoned on our line;
 Pause—ere their feebler offspring you condemn,
 Reflect how hard the task to rival them.

Friends of the Stage—to whom both Players and Plays
 Must sue alike for pardon, or for praise,
 Whose judging voice and eye alone direct
 The boundless power to cherish or reject,
 If e'er frivolity has led to fame,
 And make us blush that you forbore to blame,
 If e'er the sinking stage could condescend
 To soothe the sickly taste it dare not mend,
 All past reproach may present scenes refute,
 And censure, wisely loud, be justly mute!
 Oh! since your fiat stamps the Drama's laws,
 Forbear to mock us with misplac'd applause:
 So pride shall doubly nerve the actor's powers,
 And reason's voice be echo'd back by our's!
 This greeting o'er,—the ancient rule obey'd,
 The Drama's homage by her herald paid,
 Receive *our* welcome too—whose every tone
 Springs from our hearts, and fain would win your own.
 The curtain rises—may our stage unfold
 Scenes not unworthy Drury's days of old!
 Britons our judges, Nature for our guide,
 Still may *we* please, long—long may *you* preside.

From CHILDE HAROLD'S PILGRIMAGE.

By LORD BYRON.

HE that has sailed upon the dark blue sea,
 Has view'd at times, I ween, a full fair sight;
 When the fresh breeze is fair as breeze may be,
 The white sail set, the gallant frigate tight;
 Masts, spires, and strand retiring to the right,
 The glorious main expanding o'er the bow,
 The convoy spread like wild swans in their flight,
 The dullest sailer wearing bravely now,
 So gaily curl the waves before each dashing prow.

And oh, the little warlike world within!
 The well reev'd guns, the netted canopy,
 The hoarse command, the busy humming din,
 When, at a word, the tops are mann'd on high:
 Hark to the Boatswain's call, the cheering cry!
 While through the seaman's hand the tackle glides;
 Or school-boy Midshipman that standing by,
 Strains his shrill pipe as good or ill betides,
 And well the docile crew that skilful urchin guides.

White is the glassy deck, without a stain,
 Where on the watch the staid Lieutenant walks:
 Look on that part which sacred doth remain
 For the loan chieftain, who majestic stalks,
 Silent and fear'd by all—not oft he talks
 With aught beneath him, if he would preserve
 That strict restraint, which broken, ever balks
 Conquest and Fame: but Britons rarely swerve
 From Law, however stern, which tends their strength to nerve.

Blow! swiftly blow, thou keel-compelling gale!
 Till the broad sun withdraws his lessening ray;
 Then must the pennant-bearer slacken sail,
 That lagging barks may make their lazy way.
 Ah, grievance sore! and listless dull delay,
 To waste on sluggish hulks the sweetest breeze,
 What leagues are lost before the dawn of day?
 Thus loitering pensive on the willing seas,
 The flapping sail haul'd down to halt for logs like these!

The moon is up; by Heaven a lovely eve!
 Long streams of light o'er dancing waves expand;
 Now lads on shore may sigh and maids believe:
 Such be our fate when we return to land!

Meantime

Meantime some rude Arion's restless hand
 Wakes the brisk harmony that sailors love;
 A circle there of merry listeners stand,
 Or to some well-known measure featly move,
 Thoughtless, as if on shore they still were free to rove.

Through Calpe's straits survey the steepy shore,
 Europe and Afric on each other gaze!
 Lands of the dark-ey'd Maid and dusky Moor,
 Alike beheld beneath pale Hecate's blaze:
 How softly on the Spanish shore she plays,
 Disclosing rock, and slope, and forest brown,
 Distinct though darkening with her waning phase:
 But Mauritania's giant shadows frown,
 From mountain cliff to coast descending sombre down.

'Tis night, when meditation bids us feel
 We once have lov'd, though love is at an end:
 The heart, lone mourner of its baffled zeal,
 Though friendless now will dream it had a friend.
 Who with the weight of years would wish to bend,
 When Youth itself survives young Love and Joy?
 Alas! when mingling souls forget to blend,
 Death hath but little left him to destroy!
 Ah! happy years! once more who would not be a boy?

Thus bending o'er the vessel's laving side,
 To gaze on Dian's wave-reflected sphere;
 The soul forgets her schemes of Hope and Pride,
 And flies unconscious o'er each backward year:
 None are so desolate but something dear,
 Dearer than self, possesses or possess'd
 A thought, and claims the homage of a tear;
 A flashing pang! of which the weary breast
 Would still, albeit, in vain, the heavy heart divest.

To sit on rocks, to muse o'er flood and fell,
 To slowly trace the forest's shady scene,
 Where things that own not man's dominion dwell,
 And mortal foot hath ne'er, or rarely been;
 To climb the trackless mountain all unseen,
 With the wild flock that never needs a fold;
 Alone o'er steeps and foaming falls to lean;
 This is not solitude; 'tis but to hold
 Converse with Nature's charms, and see her stores unroll'd.

But midst the crowd, the hum, the shock of men,
 To hear, to see; to feel, and to possess,

And

And roam along, the world's tir'd denizen,
 With none who bless us, none whom we can bless;
 Minions of splendor shrinking from distress!
 None that, with kindred consciousness endued,
 If we were not, would seem to smile the less
 Of all that flatter'd, followed, sought, and sued:
 This is to be alone; this, this is solitude!

TO THYRZA.

By the same.

ONE struggle more, and I am free
 From pangs that rend my heart in twain;
 One last long sigh to love and thee,
 Then back to busy life again.
 It suits me well to mingle now
 With things that never pleas'd before:
 Though ev'ry joy is fled below,
 What future grief can touch me more?

Then bring me wine, the banquet bring:
 Man was not form'd to live alone:
 I'll be that light unmeaning thing
 That smiles with all, and weeps with none.
 It was not thus in days more dear,
 It never would have been, but thou
 Hast fled, and left me lonely here:
 Thou'rt nothing, all are nothing now.

In vain my lyre would lightly breathe!
 The smile that sorrow fain would wear
 But mocks the woe that lurks beneath,
 Like roses o'er a sepulchre.
 Though gay companions o'er the bowl
 Dispel awhile the sense of ill;
 Though pleasure fires the madd'ning soul;
 The heart—the heart is lonely still!

On many a lone and lovely night
 It sooth'd to gaze upon the sky;
 For then I deem'd the heav'nly light
 Shone sweetly on thy pensive eye:
 And oft I thought at Cynthia's noon,
 When sailing o'er the Ægean wave,
 "Now Thyrza gazes on that moon—"
 Alas, it gleam'd upon her grave.

When

When stretch'd on fever's sleepless bed,
 And sickness shrunk my throbbing veins,
 " 'Tis comfort still," I faintly said,
 " That Thyrza cannot know my pains :"
 Like freedom to the time-worn slave,
 A boon 'tis idle then to give;
 Relenting nature vainly gave
 My life, when Thyrza ceas'd to live !

My Thyrza's pledge in better days,
 When love and life alike were new !
 How different now thou meet'st my gaze !
 How ting'd by time with sorrows hue !
 The heart that gave itself with thee
 Is silent—ah, were mine as still !
 Though cold as e'en the dead can be,
 It feels, it sickens with the chill.

Thou bitter pledge ! thou mournful token !
 Though painful, welcome to my breast !
 Still, still, preserve that love unbroken,
 Or break the heart to which thou'rt prest !
 Time tempers love, but not removes,
 More hallow'd when its hope is fled :
 Oh ! what are thousand living loves
 To that which cannot quit the dead ?

THE PATRON.

From CRABBE'S TALES.

A BOROUGH-BAILIFF, who to law was train'd,
 A wife and sons in decent state maintain'd ;
 He had his way in life's rough ocean steer'd,
 And many a rock and coast of danger clear'd ;
 He saw where others fail'd, and care had he,
 Others in him should not such failings see :
 His sons in various busy states were plac'd,
 And all began the sweets of gain to taste ;
 Save John, the younger ; who, of sprightly parts,
 Felt not a love for money-making arts :
 In childhood feeble, he, for country air,
 Had long resided with a rustic pair ;
 All round whose room were doleful ballads, songs,
 Of lovers' sufferings and of ladies' wrongs ;
 Of peevish ghosts who came at dark midnight,
 For breach of promise, guilty men to fright :
 Love, marriage, murder, were the themes, with these,
 All that on idle, ardent spirits seize ;

Robbers

Robbers at land and pirates on the main,
 Enchanters foil'd, spells broken, giants slain ;
 Legends of love, with tales of halls and bowers,
 Choice of rare songs, and garlands of choice flowers,
 And all the hungry mind without a choice devours.

From Village children kept apart by pride,
 With such enjoyments, and without a guide,
 Inspir'd by feelings all such works infus'd,
 John snatch'd a pen, and wrote as he perus'd ;
 With the like fancy, he could make his knight
 Slay half an host, and put the rest to flight ;
 With the like knowledge, he could make him ride
 From isle to isle at Parthenissa's side ;
 And with a heart yet free, no busy brain
 Form'd wilder notions of delight and pain,
 The raptures smiles create, the anguish of disdain.

Such were the fruits of John's poetic toil,
 Weeds, but still proofs of vigour in the soil :
 He nothing purpos'd, but with vast delight
 Let Fancy loose, and wonder'd at her flight :
 His notions of poetic worth were high,
 And of his own still-hoarded poetry ;—
 These to his father's house he bore with pride,
 A miser's treasure, in his room to hide ;
 Till spurr'd by glory, to a reading friend
 He kindly show'd the Sonnets he had penn'd ;
 With erring judgment, though with heart sincere,
 That friend exclaim'd, ' These beauties must appear.'
 In magazines they claim'd their share of fame,
 Though undistinguish'd by their Author's name ;
 And with delight the young Enthusiast found
 The muse of Marcus with applauses crown'd.

This heard the Father, and with some alarm ;
 ' The boy,' said he, ' will neither trade nor farm ;
 He for both Law and Physic is unfit,
 Wit he may have, but cannot live on wit :
 Let him his talents then to learning give,
 Where verse is honour'd, and where poets live.'

John kept his terms at College unrepov'd,
 Took his degree, and left the life he lov'd ;
 Not yet ordain'd, his leisure he employed
 In the light labours he so much enjoy'd ;
 His favourite notions and his daring views
 Were cherish'd still, and he ador'd the Muse.

“ A little

" A little time, and he should burst to light,
 And admiration of the world excite ;
 And every friend, now cool and apt to blame
 His fond pursuit, would wonder at his fame."
 When led by fancy, and from view retir'd,
 He call'd before him all his heart desir'd ;
 " Fame shall be mine, then wealth shall I possess,
 And beauty next an ardent lover bless ;
 For me the maid shall leave her nobler state,
 Happy to raise and share her poet's fate."
 He saw each day his Father's frugal board,
 With simple fare by cautious prudence stor'd ;
 Where each indulgence was foreweigh'd with care,
 And the grand maxims were to save and spare :
 Yet in his walks, his closet, and his bed,
 All frugal cares and prudent counsels fled ;
 And bounteous Fancy, for his glowing mind,
 Wrought various scenes, and all of glorious kind :
 Slaves of the ring and lamp ! what need of you,
 When Fancy's self such magic deeds can do ?

Though rapt in visions of no vulgar kind,
 To common subjects stoop'd our Poet's mind ;
 And oft, when wearied with more ardent flight,
 He felt a spur satiric song to write :
 A rival burgess his bold Muse attack'd,
 And whipp'd severely for a well-known fact ;
 For while he seem'd to all demure and shy,
 Our Poet gaz'd at what was passing by ;
 And ev'n his father smil'd when playful wit,
 From his young bard, some haughty object hit.

From ancient times, the Borough where they dwelt
 Had mighty contest at elections felt :
 Sir Godfrey Ball, 'tis true, had held in pay
 Electors many for the trying day ;
 But in such golden chains to bind them all,
 Requir'd too much for e'en Sir Godfrey Ball.
 A member died, and, to supply his place,
 Two heroes enter'd for th' important race ;
 Sir Godfrey's friend and Earl Fitzdonnel's son,
 Lord Frederick Damer, both prepar'd to run ;
 And partial numbers saw with vast delight
 Their good young Lord oppose the proud old Knight.

Our poet's Father, at a first request,
 Gave the young Lord his vote and interest ;

And

And what he could our Poet, for he stung
 The foe by verse satiric said and sung :
 Lord Frederick heard of all this youthful zeal,
 And felt as Lords upon a canvass feel;
 He read the satire, and he saw the use
 That such cool insult, and such keen abuse,
 Might on the wavering minds of voting men produce :
 Then too his praises were in contrast seen,
 " A Lord as noble as the Knight was mean."

" I much rejoice," he cried, " such worth to find :
 To this the world must be no longer blind ;
 His glory will descend from sire to son,
 The Burns of English race, the happier Chatterton."—
 Our Poet's mind, now hurried and elate,
 Alarm'd the anxious Parent for his fate ;
 Who saw with sorrow, should their Friend succeed,
 That much discretion would the Poet need.

Their Friend succeeded, and repaid the zeal
 The Poet felt, and made opposers feel,
 By praise (from Lords how soothing and how sweet !)
 And invitation to his noble seat.
 The Father ponder'd, doubtful if the brain
 Of his proud Boy such honour could sustain ;
 Pleas'd with the favours offer'd to a son,
 But seeing dangers few so ardent shun.

Thus, when they parted, to the youthful breast
 The Father's fears were by his love impress'd :
 " There will you find, my Son, the courteous ease
 That must subdue the soul it means to please ;
 That soft attention which ev'n beauty pays
 To wake our passions, or provoke our praise ;
 There all the eye beholds will give delight,
 Where every sense is flatter'd like the sight :
 This is your peril ; can you from such scene
 Of splendor part and feel your mind serene,
 And in the father's humble state resume
 The frugal diet and the narrow room ?"
 To this the Youth with cheerful heart reply'd,
 Pleas'd with the trial, but as yet untry'd ;
 And while professing patience, should he fail,
 He suffer'd hope o'er reason to prevail.

Impatient, by the morning mail convey'd,
 The happy guest his promis'd visit paid ;

And

And now arriving at the Hall, he try'd
 For air compos'd, serene and satisfy'd ;
 As he had practis'd in his room alone,
 And there acquir'd a free and easy tone :
 There he had said, " Whatever the degree
 A man obtains, what more than man is he ?"
 And when arriv'd,—“ This room is but a room ;
 Can aught we see the steady soul o'ercome ?
 Let me in all a manly firmness show,
 Upheld by talents, and their value know.”

This Reason urg'd ; but it surpass'd his skill
 To be in act as manly as in will :
 When he his Lordship and the Lady saw,
 Brave as he was, he felt oppress'd with awe ;
 And spite of verse, that so much praise had won,
 The Poet found he was the Bailiff's son.

But dinner came, and the succeeding hours
 Fix'd his weak nerves, and rais'd his failing powers ;
 Prais'd and assur'd, he ventur'd once or twice
 On some remark, and bravely broke the ice ;
 So that at night, reflecting on his words,
 He found, in time, he might converse with Lords.

Now was the Sister of his Patron seen,—
 A lovely creature, with majestic mien ;
 Who, softly smiling while she look'd so fair,
 Prais'd the young Poet with such friendly air ;
 Such winning frankness in her looks express'd,
 And such attention to her Brother's guest ;
 That so much beauty, join'd with speech so kind,
 Rais'd strong emotions in the Poet's mind ;
 Till reason fail'd his bosom to defend,
 From the sweet power of this enchanting Friend.—
 Rash boy ! what hope thy frantic mind invades ?
 What love confuses, and what pride persuades ?
 Awake to Truth ! should'st thou deluded feed
 On hopes so groundless—thou art mad indeed.

Whatsay'st thou, wise-one ? “ that all-powerful Love
 Can fortune's strong impediments remove ;
 Nor is it strange that worth should wed to worth,
 The pride of Genius with the pride of Birth.”
 While thou art dreaming thus, the Beauty spies
 Love in thy tremor, passion in thine eyes ;
 And with th' amusement pleas'd, of conquest vain,
 She seeks her pleasure, careless of thy pain ;

She

She gives thee praise to humble and confound,
Smiles to ensnare and flatters thee to wound.

Why has she said that in the lowest state,
The noble mind insures a noble fate?
And why thy daring mind to glory call?
That thou may'st dare and suffer, soar and fall.
Beauties are tyrants, and if they can reign,
They have no feeling for their subject's pain;
Their victim's anguish gives their charms applause,
And their chief glory is the woe they cause:
Something of this was felt, in spite of love,
Which hope, in spite of reason, would remove.

Thus liv'd our Youth, with conversation, books,
And Lady Emma's soul-subduing looks;
Lost in delight, astonished at his lot,
All prudence banish'd, all advice forgot,—
Hopes, fears, and every thought, were fix'd upon the spot.

'Twas autumn yet, and many a day must frown
On Brandon-Hall, ere went my Lord to town;
Meantime the father, who had heard his boy
Liv'd in a round of luxury and joy;
And justly thinking that the youth was one
Who, meeting danger, was unskill'd to shun;
Knowing his temper, virtue, spirit, zeal,
How prone to hope and trust, believe and feel;
These on the parent's soul their weight impress'd,
And thus he wrote the counsels of his breast.

'John, thou'rt a genius; thou hast some pretence,
I think, to wit, but hast thou sterling sense?
That which, like gold, may through the world go forth,
And always pass for what 'tis truly worth;
Whereas this genius, like a bill, must take
Only the value our opinions make.

'Men fam'd for wit, of dangerous talents vain,
Treat those of common parts with proud disdain;
The powers that wisdom would, improving, hide,
They blaze abroad with inconsiderate pride;
While yet but mere probationers for fame,
They seize the honour they should then disclaim:
Honour so hurried to the light must fade,
The lasting laurels flourish in the shade.

‘ Genius is jealous; I have heard of some
 Who, if unnotic’d, grew perversely dumb;
 Nay, different talents would their envy raise,
 Poets have sicken’d at a dancer’s praise;
 And one, the happiest writer of his time,
 Grew pale at hearing Reynolds was sublime;
 That Rutland’s Duchess wore a heavenly smile.—
 And I, said he, neglected all the while!

‘ A waspish tribe are these, on gilded wings,
 Humming their lays, and brandishing their stings;
 And thus they move their friends and foes among,
 Prepar’d for soothing or satiric song.

‘ Hear me, my boy, thou hast a virtuous mind—
 But be thy virtues of the sober kind;
 Be not a Quixote, ever up in arms
 To give the guilty and the great alarms:
 If never heeded, thy attack is vain;
 And if they heed thee, they’ll attack again;
 Then too in striking at that heedless rate,
 Thou in an instant may’st decide thy fate.

‘ Leave admonition—let the Vicar give
 Rules how the Nobles of his flock should live;
 Nor take that simple fancy to thy brain,
 That thou canst cure the wicked and the vain.

‘ Our Pope, they say, once entertain’d the whim,
 Who fear’d not God should be afraid of him;
 But grant they fear’d him, was it further said,
 That he reform’d the hearts he made afraid?
 Did Chartres mend? Ward, Waters, and a score
 Of flagrant felons, with his floggings sore?
 Was Cibber silenc’d? No; with vigour blest,
 And brazen front, half earnest, half in jest,
 He dar’d the Bard to battle, and was seen
 In all his glory match’d with Pope and spleen;
 Himself he stripp’d, the harder blow to hit,
 Then boldly match’d his ribaldry with wit;
 The Poet’s conquest Truth and Time proclaim,
 But yet the battle hurt his peace and fame.

‘ Strive not too much for favour, seem at ease,
 And rather pleas’d thyself, than bent to please:
 Upon thy Lord with decent care attend,
 But not too near; thou canst not be a friend;

And favourite be not, 'tis a dangerous post,—
 Is gain'd by labour, and by fortune lost :
 Talents like thine may make a man approv'd,
 But other talents trusted and belov'd.
 Look round, my Son, and thou wilt early see
 The kind of man thou art not form'd to be.

' The real favourites of the great are they,
 Who to their views and wants attention pay,
 And pay it ever ; who, with all their skill,
 Dive to the heart, and learn the secret will ;
 If that be vicious, soon can they provide
 The favourite ill, and o'er the soul preside ;
 For vice is weakness, and the artful know
 Their power increases as the passions grow :
 If indolent the pupil, hard their task ;
 Such minds will ever for amusement ask ;
 And great the labour, for a man to choose
 Objects for one whom nothing can amuse ;
 For ere those objects can the soul delight,
 They must to joy the soul herself excite ;
 Therefore it is, this patient, watchful kind
 With gentle friction stir the drowsy mind :
 Fix'd on their end, with caution they proceed,
 And sometimes give, and sometimes take the lead :
 Will now a hint convey, and then retire,
 And let the spark awake the lingering fire ;
 Or seek new joys and livelier pleasures bring,
 To give the jaded sense a quick'ning spring.

' These arts, indeed, my Son must not pursue ;
 Nor must he quarrel with the tribe that do :
 It is not safe another's crimes to know,
 Nor is it wise our proper worth to show :—
 " My Lord," you say, " engag'd me for that worth : "—
 True, and preserve it ready to come forth ;
 If question'd, fairly answer,—and that done,
 Shrink back, be silent, and thy Father's son ;
 For they who doubt thy talents scorn thy boast,
 But they who grant them will dislike thee most :
 Observe the prudent ; they in silence sit,
 Display no learning, and affect no wit ;
 They hazard nothing, nothing they assume,
 But know the useful art of acting dumb.
 Yet to their eyes each varying look appears,
 And every word finds entrance at their ears.

' Thou art Religion's advocate—take heed,
 Hurt not the cause, thy pleasure 'tis to plead ;

With

With wine before thee, and with wits beside,
Do not in strength of reas'ning powers confide;
What seems to thee convincing, certain, plain,
They will deny, and dare thee to maintain;
And thus will triumph o'er thy eager youth,
While thou wilt grieve for so disgracing Truth.

' With pain I've seen these wrangling wits among,
Faith's weak defenders, passionate and young:
Weak thou art not, yet not enough on guard,
Where Wit and Humour keep their watch and ward:
Men gay and noisy will o'erwhelm thy sense,
Then loudly laugh at Truth's and thy expense;
While the kind Ladies will do all they can
To check their mirth, and cry, 'The good young man!'

' Prudence, my Boy, forbids thee to commend
The cause or party of thy Noble Friend;
What are his praises worth, who must be known
To take a Patron's maxims for his own?
When ladies sing, or in thy presence play,
Do not, dear John, in rapture melt away;
'Tis not thy part; there will be list'ners round,
To cry Divine! and doat upon the sound;
Remember too, that though the poor have ears,
They take not in the music of the spheres;
They must not feel the warble and the thrill,
Or be dissolv'd in ecstasy at will:
Beside, 'tis freedom in a youth like thee,
To drop his awe, and deal in ecstasy.

' In silent ease, at least in silence, dine,
Nor one opinion start of food or wine:
Thou know'st that all the science thou canst boast,
Is of thy father's simple boil'd and roast;
Nor always these; he sometimes sav'd his cash,
By interlinear days of frugal hash:
Wine hadst thou seldom; wilt thou be so vain
As to decide on claret or champagne?
Dost thou from me derive this taste sublime,
Who order port the dozen at a time?
When (every glass held precious in our eyes)
We judg'd the value by the bottle's size:
Then never merit for thy praise assume,
Its worth well knows each servant in the room.

' Hard, Boy, thy task, to steer thy way among
That servile, supple, shrewd, insidious throng!

Who

Who look upon thee as of doubtful race,
 An interloper, one who wants a place :
 Freedom with these let thy free soul condemn,
 Nor with thy heart's concerns associate them.

‘ Of all be cautious—but be most afraid
 Of the pale charms that grace My Lady's Maid ;
 Of those sweet dimples, of that fraudulent eye,
 The frequent glance design'd for thee to spy ;
 The soft bewitching look, the fond bewailing sigh ;
 Let others frown and envy ; she the while
 (Insidious syren !) will demurely smile ;
 And for her gentle purpose, every day
 Inquire thy wants, and meet thee in thy way ;
 She has her blandishments, and, though so weak,
 Her person pleases, and her actions speak :
 At first her folly may her aim defeat ;
 But kindness shown, at length will kindness meet :
 Have some offended ? them will she disdain,
 And, for thy sake, contempt and pity feign ;
 She hates the vulgar, she admires to look
 On woods and groves, and dotes upon a book :
 Let her once see thee on her features dwell,
 And hear one sigh, then liberty farewell.

‘ But, John ! remember, we cannot maintain
 A poor, proud girl, extravagant and vain.

‘ Doubt much of friendship : shouldst thou find a friend
 Pleas'd to advise thee, anxious to commend ;
 Should he, the praises he has heard, report,
 And confidence (in thee confiding) court ;
 Much of neglectful Patrons should he say,
 And then exclaim—“ How long must merit stay !”
 Then show how high thy modest hopes may stretch,
 And point to stations far beyond thy reach :—
 Let such designer, by thy conduct, see,
 (Civil and cool) he makes no dupe of thee ;
 And he will quit thee, as a man too wise
 For him to ruin first, and then despise.

‘ Such are thy dangers :—yet, if thou canst steer
 Past all the perils, all the quicksands clear,
 Then may'st thou profit ; but if storms prevail,
 If foes beset thee, if thy spirits fail,—
 No more of winds or waters be the sport,
 But in thy Father's mansion find a port.’

Our Poet read.—“ It is in truth,” said he,
 Correct in part, but what is *this* to me ?
 I love a foolish Abigail ! in base
 And sordid office ! fear not such disgrace ;
 Am I so blind ?” Or thou wouldst surely see
 That lady’s fall, if she should stoop to thee !
 “ The cases differ.” “ True ! for what surprise
 Could from thy marriage with the Maid arise ?
 But through the island would the shame be spread,
 Should the fair Mistress deign with thee to wed.’

John saw not this ; and many a week had pass’d,
 While the vain Beauty held her victim fast ;
 The Noble Friend still condescension show’d,
 And, as before, with praises overflow’d ;
 But his grave Lady took a silent view
 Of all that pass’d, and smiling, pitied too.

Cold grew the foggy morn, the day was brief,
 Loose on the cherry hung the crimson leaf ;
 The dew dwelt ever on the herb ; the woods
 Roar’d with strong blasts, with mighty showers the floods ;
 All green was vanish’d, save of pine and yew,
 That still display’d their melancholy hue ;
 Save the green holly with its berries red,
 And the green moss that o’er the gravel spread.

To public views my Lord must soon attend ;
 And soon the ladies—would they leave their friend ?
 The time was fix’d—approach’d—was near—was come ;
 The trying time that fill’d his soul with gloom ;
 Thoughtful our Poet in the morning rose,
 And cried, “ One hour my fortune will disclose ;
 Terrific hour ! from thee have I to date
 Life’s loftier views, or my degraded state ;
 For now to be what I have been before,
 Is so to fall, that I can rise no more.”

The morning meal was past ; and all around
 The mansion rang with each discordant sound ;
 Haste was in every foot, and every look
 The trav’ler’s joy for London-journey spoke :
 Not so our Youth ; whose feelings at the noise
 Of preparation, had no touch of joys ;
 He pensive stood, and saw each carriage drawn,
 With lackies mounted, ready on the lawn :

The Ladies came ; and John in terror threw
 One painful glance, and then his eyes withdrew ;
 Not with such speed, but he in other eyes
 With anguish read,—‘ I pity, but despise—
 ‘ Unhappy boy ! presumptuous scribbler !—you,
 ‘ To dream such dreams—be sober, and adieu !’

Then came the Noble Friend—“ And will my Lord
 Vouchsafe no comfort ? drop no soothing word ?
 Yes he must speak :” he speaks. ‘ My good young friend,
 ‘ You know my views ; upon my care depend ;
 ‘ My hearty thanks to your good Father pay,
 ‘ And be a student.—Harry, drive away.’

Stillness reign’d all around ; of late so full
 The busy scene, deserted now and dull :
 Stern is his nature who forbears to feel
 Gloom o’er his spirits on such trials steal.
 Most keenly felt our Poet as he went
 From room to room without a fix’d intent ;
 “ And here,” he thought, “ I was caress’d, admir’d
 Were here my songs ; she smil’d, and I aspir’d :
 “ The change how grievous !” As he mus’d, a dame
 Busy and peevish to her duties came ;
 Aside the tables and the chairs she drew,
 And sang and muttered in the Poet’s view ;

‘ This was her fortune ; here they leave the poor ;
 Enjoy themselves, and think of us no more ;
 I had a promise—’ here his pride and shame
 Urg’d him to fly from this familiar dame ;
 He gave one farewell look, and by a coach
 Reach’d his own mansion at the night’s approach.

His Father met him with an anxious air,
 Heard his sad tale, and check’d what seem’d despair :
 Hope was in him corrected, but alive ;
 My Lord would something for a friend contrive ;
 His word was pledg’d : our Hero’s feverish mind
 Admitted this, and half his grief resign’d :
 But, when three months had fled, and every day
 Drew from the sickening hopes their strength away,
 The Youth became abstracted, pensive, dull ;
 He utter’d nothing, though his heart was full ;

Teaz’d

Teaz'd by inquiring words, and anxious looks,
 And all forgetful of his Muse and books ;
 Awake he mourn'd, but in his sleep perceiv'd
 A lovely vision that his pain reliev'd :—
 His soul transported, hail'd the happy seat,
 Where once his pléasure was so pure and sweet :
 Where joys departed came in blissful view,
 Till reason wak'd, and not a joy he knew.

Questions now vex'd his spirit, most from those
 Who are call'd friends because they are not foes ;
 ' John !' they would say ; he starting, turn'd around ;
 " John !" there was something shocking in the sound ;
 Ill brook'd he then the pert familiar phrase,
 The untaught freedom, and th' inquiring gaze ;
 Much was his temper touch'd, his spleen provok'd,
 When ask'd how Ladies talk'd, or walk'd, or look'd ?
 ' What said my Lord of politics ? how spent
 ' He there his time ? and was he glad he went ?'

At length a letter came both cool and brief,
 But still it gave the burthen'd heart relief ;
 Though not inspir'd by lofty hopes, the Youth
 Plac'd much reliance on Lord Frederick's truth ;
 Summon'd to town, he thought the visit one
 Where something fair and friendly would be done ;
 Although he judg'd not, as before his fall,
 When all was love and promise at the Hall.

Arriv'd in town, he early sought to know
 The fate such dubious friendship would bestow.
 At a tall building trembling he appear'd,
 And his low rap was indistinctly heard ;
 A well-known servant came—' Awhile,' said he,
 ' Be pleas'd to wait ; my Lord has company.'

Alone our Hero sate ; the news in hand,
 Which though he read, he could not understand :
 Cold was the day ; in days so cold as these
 There needs a fire, where minds and bodies freeze ;
 The vast and echoing room, the polish'd grate,
 The crimson chairs, the sideboard with its plate ;
 The splendid sofa, which, though made for rest,
 He then had thought it freedom to have press'd ;
 The shining tables, curiously inlaid,
 Were all in comfortless proud style display'd ;

And

And to the troubled feelings terror gave,
That made the once-dear friend, the sick'ning slave.

“Was he forgotten?” Thrice upon his ear
Struck the loud clock, yet no relief was near :
Each rattling carriage, and each thundering stroke
On the loud door, the dream of Fancy broke ;
Oft as a servant chanc'd the way to come,
“Brings he a message?” no ! he pass'd the room :
At length 'tis certain ; ‘ Sir, you will attend
‘ At twelve on Thursday.’ Thus the day had end.

Vex'd by these tedious hours of needless pain,
John left the noble mansion with disdain ;
For there was something in that still, cold place,
That seem'd to threaten and portend disgrace.

Punctual again the modest rap declar'd
The Youth attended ; then was all prepar'd ;
For the same servant, by his Lord's command,
A paper offer'd to his trembling hand :
“No more !” he cried, “disdains he to afford
“One kind expression, one consoling word ?”

With troubled spirit he began to read
That ‘ In the Church my Lord could not succeed ;
Who had ‘ to Peers of either kind applied,
‘ And was with dignity and grace denied ;
‘ While his own livings were by men possess'd,
‘ Not likely in their chancels yet to rest ;
‘ And therefore, all things weigh'd, (as he, my Lord,
‘ Had done maturely, and he pledg'd his word),
‘ Wisdom it seem'd for John to turn his view
‘ To busier scenes, and bid the Church adieu !’

Here griev'd the Youth ; he felt his father's pride
Must with his own be shock'd and mortified ;
But, when he found his future comforts plac'd,
Where he, alas ! conceiv'd himself disgrac'd—
In some appointment on the London Quays,
He bade farewell to honour and to ease :
His spirit fell, and, from that hour assur'd
How vain his dreams, he suffer'd and was cur'd.

Our Poet hurried on, with wish to fly
From all mankind, to be conceal'd, and die.

Alas !

Alas! what hopes, what high romantic views
 Did that one visit to the soul infuse,
 Which cherish'd with such love, 'twas worse than death to
 lose!

Still he would strive, tho' painful was the strife,
 To walk in this appointed road of life;
 On these low duties, duteous he would wait,
 And patient bear the anguish of his fate.
 Thanks to the Patron, but of coldest kind,
 Express'd the sadness of the Poet's mind;
 Whose heavy hours were pass'd with busy men,
 In the dull practice of th' official pen;
 Who to Superiors must in time impart
 (The custom this) his progress in their art:
 But, so had grief on his perception wrought,
 That all unheeded were the duties taught;
 No answers gave he when his trial came,
 Silent he stood, but suffering without shame;
 And they observ'd that words severe or kind
 Made no impression on his wounded mind;
 For all perceiv'd from whence his failure rose,
 Some grief whose cause he deign'd not to disclose.
 A soul averse from scenes and works so new,
 Fear ever shrinking from the vulgar crew;
 Distaste for each mechanic law and rule,
 Thoughts of past honour and a patron cool;
 A grieving parent, and a feeling mind,
 Timid and ardent, tender and refin'd;
 These all with mighty force the Youth assail'd,
 Till his soul fainted, and his reason fail'd:
 When this was known, and some debate arose
 How they who saw it should the fact disclose;
 He found their purpose, and in terror fled
 From unseen kindness, with mistaken dread.

Meantime the Parent was distress'd to find
 His Son no longer for a Priest design'd:
 But still he gain'd some comfort by the news
 Of John's promotion, though with humbler views;
 For he conceiv'd that in no distant time
 The Boy would learn to scramble and to climb:
 He little thought a Son, his hope and pride,
 His favour'd Boy, was now a home denied;
 Yes! while the parent was intent to trace
 How men in office climb from place to place;
 From place to place, o'er moor, and heath, and hill
 Rov'd the sad Youth, with ever-changing will,
 Of every aid bereft, expos'd to every ill.

Thus

Thus as he sate, absorb'd in all the care
 And all the hope that anxious fathers share,
 A Friend abruptly to his presence brought,
 With trembling hand, the subject of his thought ;
 Whom he had found afflicted and subdued
 By hunger, sorrow, cold, and solitude.

Silent he enter'd the forgotten room,
 As ghostly forms may be conceiv'd to come ;
 With sorrow-shrunk face and hair upright,
 He look'd dismay, neglect, despair, affright ;
 But, dead to comfort, and on misery thrown,
 His Parent's loss he felt not, nor his own.

The good Man, struck with horror, cried aloud,
 And drew around him an astonish'd crowd ;
 The sons and Servants to the Father ran,
 To share the feelings of the griev'd old man :

' Our Brother, speak !' they all exclaim'd ; ' explain
 ' Thy grief, thy suffering : '—but they ask'd in vain :
 The Friend told all he knew ; and all was known,
 Save the sad causes whence the ills had grown :
 But, if obscure the cause, they all agreed
 From rest and kindness must the cure proceed :
 And he was cur'd ; for quiet, love, and care,
 Strove with the gloom, and broke on the despair ;
 Yet slow their progress, and, as vapours move
 Dense and reluctant from the wint'ry grove ;
 All is confusion till the morning light
 Gives the dim scene obscurely to the sight ;
 More and yet more defin'd the trunks appear,
 Till the wild prospect stands distinct and clear ;—
 So the dark mind of our young Poet grew
 Clear and sedate ; the dreadful mist withdrew ;
 And he resembled that bleak wint'ry scene,
 Sad, though unclouded ; dismal, though serene.

At times he utter'd, " What a dream was mine !
 " And what a prospect ! glorious and divine !
 " Oh ! in that room, and on that night to see
 " Those looks, that sweetness beaming all on me ;
 " That syren-flattery—and to send me then
 " Hope-rais'd and soften'd to those heartless men ;
 " That dark-brow'd stern Director pleas'd to show
 " Knowledge of subjects I disdain'd to know ;
 " Cold and controlling—but 'tis gone, 'tis past,
 " I had my trial, and have peace at last."

Now grew the Youth resign'd; he bade adieu
 To all that Hope, to all that Fancy drew;
 His frame was languid, and the hectic heat
 Flush'd on his pallid face, and countless beat
 The quick'ning pulse, and faint the limbs that bore
 The slender form that soon would breathe no more.

Then hope of holy kind the soul sustain'd,
 And not a lingering thought of earth remain'd;
 Now Heaven had all, and he could smile at Love,
 And the wild sallies of his youth reprove;
 Then could he dwell upon the tempting days,
 The proud aspiring thought, the partial praise;
 Victorious now, his worldly views were clos'd,
 And on the bed of death the Youth repos'd.

The Father griev'd—but as the Poet's heart
 Was all unfitted for his earthly part;
 As, he conceiv'd, some other haughty Fair
 Would, had he liv'd, have led him to despair;
 As, with this fear, the silent grave shut out
 All feverish hope, and all tormenting doubt;
 While the strong faith the pious Youth possess'd,
 His hope enlivening, gave his sorrows rest;
 Sooth'd by these thoughts, he felt a mournful joy
 For his aspiring and devoted boy.

Meantime the news through various channels spread,
 The youth, once favour'd with such praise, was dead;
 'Emma,' the Lady cried, 'my words attend:
 Your syren-smiles have killed your humble friend;
 The hope you rais'd can now delude no more,
 Nor charms, that once inspir'd, can now restore.'

Faint was the flush of anger and of shame,
 That o'er the cheek of conscious beauty came;
 'You censure not,' said she, 'the Sun's bright rays,
 When fools imprudent dare the dangerous gaze;
 And should a stripling look till he were blind,
 You would not justly call the light unkind;
 But is he dead? and am I to suppose
 The power of poison in such looks as those?'
 She spoke, and pointing to the mirror, cast
 A pleas'd gay glance, and court'sy'd as she pass'd.

My Lord, to whom the Poet's fate was told,
 Was much affected, for a man so cold;
 'Dead!' said his lordship, 'run distracted, mad!
 Upon my soul I'm sorry for the lad;

And

And now, no doubt, th' obliging world will say,
That my harsh usage help'd him on his way :
What ! I suppose, I should have nurs'd his muse,
And with champagne have brighten'd up his views ;
Then had he made me fam'd my whole life long,
And stunn'd my ears with gratitude and song.
Still should the Father hear that I regret
Our joint misfortune—Yes ! I'll not forget.—'

Thus they :—The Father to his grave convey'd
The son he lov'd, and his last duties paid.

' There lies my Boy,' he cried, ' of care bereft,
' And, Heav'n be prais'd, I've not a genius left :
' No one among ye, Sons ! is doom'd to live
' On high-raised hopes of what the great may give ;
' None with exalted views and fortunes mean,
' To die in anguish, or to live in spleen :
' Your pious Brother soon escap'd the strife
' Of such contention, but it cost his life ;
' You then, my Sons, upon yourselves depend,
' And in your own exertions find the friend.'

END OF VOL. LIV.

